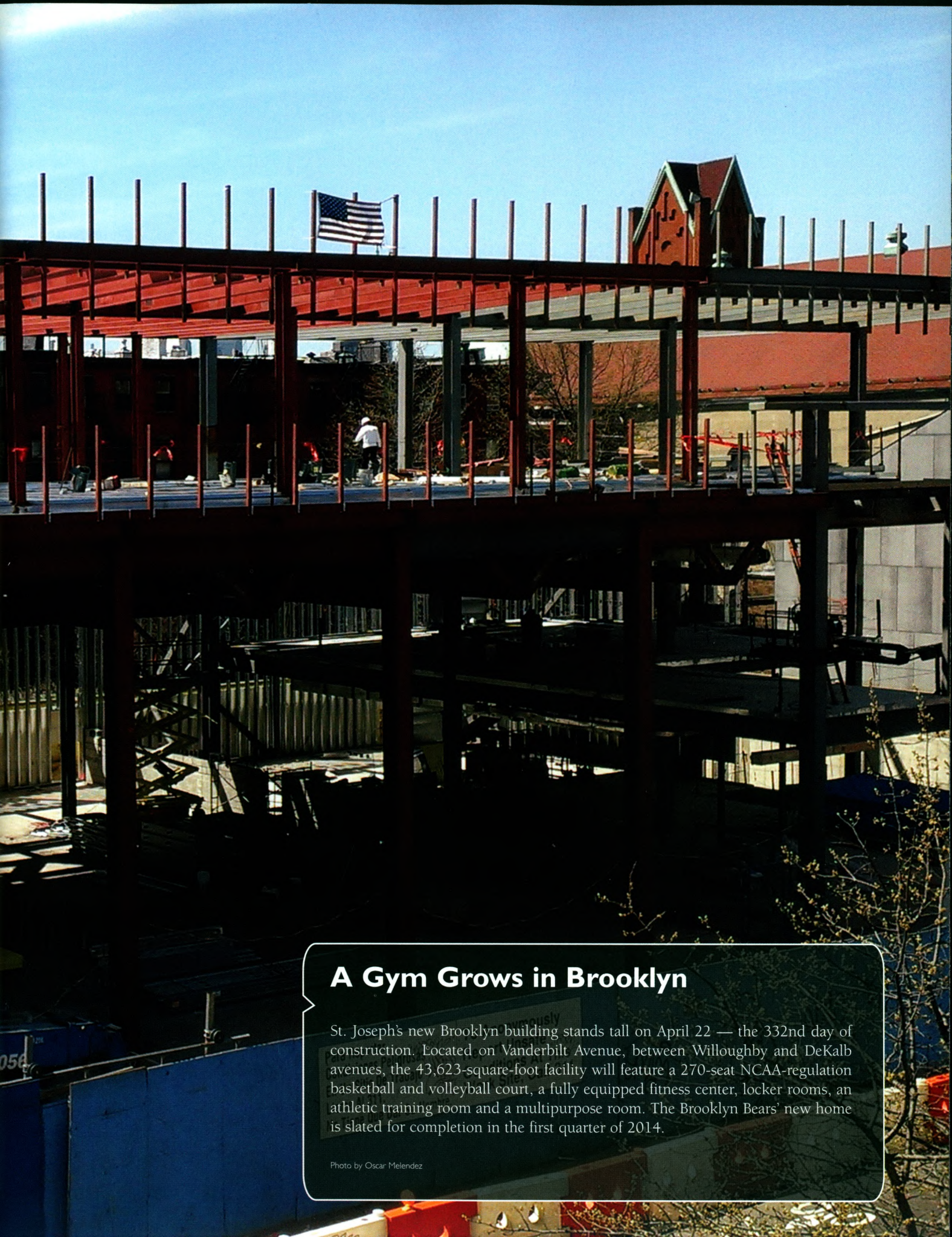


FOUR STUDENTS RELIVE THE IMPACT OF SANDY





A Gym Grows in Brooklyn

St. Joseph's new Brooklyn building stands tall on April 22 — the 332nd day of construction. Located on Vanderbilt Avenue, between Willoughby and DeKalb avenues, the 43,623-square-foot facility will feature a 270-seat NCAA-regulation basketball and volleyball court, a fully equipped fitness center, locker rooms, an athletic training room and a multipurpose room. The Brooklyn Bears' new home is slated for completion in the first quarter of 2014.

Photo by Oscar Melendez

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**Vice President for
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Class Notes Editorial Assistants
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Lisa Trinidad

Contributing Writers

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Marcy Boyle '69
Jessica McAleer Decatur
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Eric Haun '12
Nicalette Isola '16
Samantha Lotfi '14
Shannon Rom '15
L.B. Thompson
Caitlynn Webber '15

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Address Changes

Please send to: Lisa Trinidad, Office of Alumni Relations, 245 Clinton Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11205. Phone: 718.940.5585. Email: ltrinidad@sjcny.edu.

Correspondence

SJCNY: St. Joseph's College Magazine welcomes your comments and suggestions. Email us at magazine@sjcny.edu.

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A Message From ...

JESSICA McALEER DECATUR

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS, LONG ISLAND CAMPUS



Robert Ansler

“The outpouring of support from our SJC family has been overwhelmingly positive, and we continue to encourage and instill a sense of civic responsibility within our students.”

All of us, in one way or another, were affected by the widespread destruction of Hurricane Sandy, also known as Superstorm Sandy. Many were without power and heat; lost homes, businesses, cars and other valuable or personal possessions; and were exposed to terrible dangers. In the devastating aftermath of the hurricane, St. Joseph's College immediately focused its efforts on how we could help others and give back in a meaningful way. There originated the creation of the SJC Humanitarian Relief Project, of which I was proud to be a part.

Efforts to rebuild and assist those in need began with a partnership with Suffolk County, the American Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to serve as an emergency temporary shelter for displaced community members. At maximum capacity, we housed almost 250 displaced individuals in the gymnasium of the Long Island Campus' John A. Danzi Athletic Center.

In addition to shelter relief efforts, SJC set up collection relief centers at the Office of Institutional Advancement in downtown Patchogue and in Brooklyn's Tuohy Hall auditorium, where we received hundreds of pounds of food and other donated items that were distributed among numerous charities and food banks for local hurricane victims and other devastated areas by need.

SJC also canceled its 30th annual Scholarship Gala (scheduled for November 8, about 10 days after the storm hit) to focus fundraising efforts on immediately helping students from both campuses who were most impacted by the storm through the Hurricane Sandy Student Relief

Fund. The goal was to help every student stay in school. To date, the Fund has raised approximately \$265,000, and we have distributed more than \$150,000 to more than 50 eligible student applicants.

Earlier this semester, we launched a new Institute for Hospitality and Tourism Management (IHTM) in hopes of making a positive impact, not only on our local region, but on the global community as well. As part of this new initiative, we introduced a two-part IHTM Speakers Series, "Common Issues, Unique Solutions: Rebuilding and Protecting Long Island's Natural Assets and Communities," which focused on disaster resistance, resilience and recovery.

Several months have passed since the impact of the storm, and we are now working toward a "new normal" as we recover and rebuild our communities ... united, together. The outpouring of support from our SJC family has been overwhelmingly positive, and we continue to encourage and instill a sense of civic responsibility within our students.

Even this past April, during their alternative spring break, our dedicated students, staff and faculty partnered with not-for-profit organizations to assist in recovery efforts and rebuild some of the hardest hit communities in New York, including Long Beach, Far Rockaway, Breezy Point and Staten Island.

On behalf of the Humanitarian Relief Project team and the entire SJC community, I thank you all for your ongoing support, generosity and continued assistance.

To make a donation to the Hurricane Sandy Student Relief Fund, please visit giving.sjcnj.edu. ■

Brooklyn Voices Wraps Its Sophomore Year

Featuring another crop of widely popular literary figures, the second year of St. Joseph's Brooklyn Voices series concluded earlier this spring. Among the Class of 2012-13 were Pulitzer Prize-winning author Junot Diaz; Sapphire, author of the best-selling novel *Push*; and Jonathan Ames, novelist and creator of the HBO series *Bored to Death*.

Junot Diaz

Author of *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*; *This is How You Lose Her*

"I encourage you to contemplate the fact that you might be really good at [things] you find really difficult. Most of us think because we find something difficult that we [are poor] at it. But I'm proof positive that I happen to be very good at something I find very difficult. Imagine how many of us have given up on stuff we're excellent at because we think we [are poor] at it — because it comes hard. This is a society that tells you if you're not instantly Michael Jordan, you [are a failure]."

"Practice anarchist calisthenics, which is to break the little rules of the culture of respectability. Because one day this culture is going to ask you to break a rule ... and those muscles that you have for breaking rules are going to be so damn weak that you're not going to be able to do it. And for me, cursing, whether it's in my book or my real life, is simply a good way to practice. Whoever can't stand a little cursing in their heart isn't going to put up with a difficult truth."

Sapphire

Author of *Push*; *The Kid*

"*Sois Sage O Ma Douleur* is a poem about a friend who did not manifest her potential before she died. Which is a common plight among women, and one of the reasons women like myself have flocked to Marie Ponsot as a guide and example and teacher. So the fact that Marie is a poet, is brilliant, is very important to me. My mother wanted to be a dancer. My sister wanted to be an artist. They both died without realizing those dreams.

[Ms. Ponsot's] poem has meant a lot to me."

"[As a faculty member of The Writer's Foundry] I'm looking forward to engaging passionately with language and being surrounded by brilliant emerging writers of all ages, genders, sexualities, and really be working with the language. You don't spend endless hours on a piano to get a grade. You don't wake up and write in a journal to get a grade. You do it because this is your heart's desire."

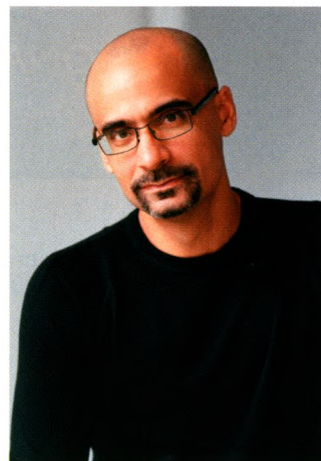
Jonathan Ames

Author of *Wake Up, Sir!*; *The Extra Man*

"For me as a writer, I always say to my students: 'Write the kind of stories you love to read.' And that's always been my method, to mimic the writers or the artists that I love, and putting it through my own perspective or spirit."

"Every jazz musician speaks of another musician they were responding to or had been influenced by. So Miles Davis might talk about Charlie Parker. And Charlie Parker would talk about Benny Goodman. What they heard inspired them and they wanted to make something similar, or they were responding to it. And so I feel its very similar with what I try to do with writing.

"My goal as a writer, whether I succeed or not, is always to entertain. To try to give somebody something. To make them feel less alone. That's where I can derive meaning — by making something. I only know to make something by wanting to make the things that I have loved and have given me pleasure." ■



Junot Diaz



Sapphire



Jonathan Ames



JONATHAN LETHEM AND RANDI SHUBIN DRESNER TO ADDRESS THE CLASS OF 2013

Two distinguished speakers will address the College's 94th spring commencement for the Brooklyn and Long Island campuses.

At the Brooklyn exercises, to be held at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge on Friday, May 24, the College will welcome nationally renowned author Jonathan Lethem.

Mr. Lethem is the author of nine novels, including *The Fortress of Solitude* and the forthcoming *Dissident Gardens*. His fifth novel, *Motherless Brooklyn*, earned the National Book Critics Circle Award, as well as several other prizes. His short stories and essays have been collected in five volumes, including the World Fantasy Award-winning *The Wall of the Eye*, *The Wall of the Sky*. Several of his shorter works have been gathered in annual anthologies of the year's best essays and short stories. His writing regularly appears in *The New Yorker*, *Rolling Stone*, *Harper's Magazine*, *The Paris Review* and *McSweeney's*.

Mr. Lethem's books have been translated into over 30 languages. In 2011 he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters from Pratt Institute, and named the second holder of the Roy E. Disney Chair in Creative Writing at Pomona College in Claremont, Calif. He was named a fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 2005.

Mr. Lethem will receive an honorary Doctor of Letters from St. Joseph's.

Following on Tuesday, May 28, at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Uniondale, the College will welcome Randi Shubin Dresner, who will address the Long Island graduates.

Ms. Dresner has been the president and chief executive officer of Island Harvest, Long Island's largest hunger-relief organization, since 2001. She is a certified fundraising executive (CFRE) and is responsible for the major expansion of Island Harvest's programming and operations, including opening its third facility, a 24,000-square-foot warehouse in Hauppauge.

Under Ms. Dresner's leadership, Island Harvest has become one of the regions leading agencies in disaster-relief and product distribution and support. The agency has been consistently rated a 4-Star Charity by Charity Navigator, the nation's largest nonprofit watchdog, and has been awarded Accredited Charity Status by the Better Business Bureau.

Ms. Dresner serves on many state and local councils, including U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's New York Agriculture Working Group and the Suffolk County Legislature Food Policy Council. She was appointed by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to serve on the Farmingdale State College Council, and is a member of the Energiea Partnership at Molloy College, where she is also an adjunct faculty member.

Ms. Dresner will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws.

Additionally, SJC will honor retiring Vice President for Planning and Dean of the School of Professional and Graduates Studies Thomas Travis, Ph.D., for his 35 years of dedicated service to St. Joseph's College. Dr. Travis will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters at the Long Island commencement exercises. ■



Jonathan Lethem



Randi Shubin Dresner

The Khatib Chair and the Search for Christian Unity

by Caitlynn Webber '15

According to the Rev. Monsignor John J. Strynkowski, Ph.D., “The ultimate unity of Christianity cannot be stopped.”

Msgr. Strynkowski, current rector of the Cathedral Basilica of St. James in Downtown Brooklyn and Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn’s vicar for higher education, spoke to this assertion during the Dr. Reza and Georgianna Clifford Khatib Chair in Comparative Religion’s fifth annual lecture. The first-ever endowed chair at St. Joseph’s College, the Khatib Chair was created in 2009 by Class of 1952 graduate Georgianna Clifford Khatib and her husband, Dr. Reza Khatib, to promote interfaith dialogue, with the study of Islam being an integral part of the initiative. Each spring, the chair hosts a noted scholar who will lecture, lead faculty discussions and teach a course at both campuses via video conference.

Msgr. Strynkowski’s address to the Brooklyn Campus on March 20 and the Long Island Campus on April 9, “The Search for Christian Unity: A Fading Dream or a Potent Reality,” was one of hope.

In his lecture — as in his religious studies course, *Varieties of Christian Experience* — Msgr. Strynkowski called attention to all that is common among Christian communities: Christian truths and practices that are universal for all and establish an intrinsic connection. Baptism and the Eucharist, for instance, are sacraments communal to all Christian churches.

Within these commonalities, Msgr. Strynkowski also acknowledged the differences among Christian churches, the role of the papacy being one in particular. This too has been given to reconsideration, as there is now recognition among ecumenical persons that Christianity is in need of the pope as its singular spokesperson.

In the past, the pope has been seen as an exalted figure, one surrounded by pomp and protocol. The pope was not simply seen as the Bishop of Rome — one of a group — but one above or outside of all groups.

“The papal primacy was interpreted as a monarchy. That is why there were trappings of a royal court; it was a legal style,” Msgr. Strynkowski said.

This was addressed in the Second Vatican Council, during which it was established that the papal primacy has to be seen in relation to others.

“What has happened is a humanization of the papacy. The pope is seen as a human being that is a part of the church rather than separate from the church,” Msgr. Strynkowski pointed out, drawing particular attention to the latest resignation of Pope Benedict XVI and election of Pope Francis I, who was recently seen paying for his own hotel room.



Sean Colgan

The Rev. Monsignor John J. Strynkowski, Ph.D.

“There are three primacies of Christianity that the pope does relate to,” he explained, “and insofar as the pope is seen as serving these three primacies — of the word of God, of the Eucharist and of love — then the papacy becomes more ecumenically acceptable as well as religiously understood and accepted.”

“Papal primacy means respecting the life of the local church in its celebration of the Eucharist but also in its other aspects,” Msgr. Strynkowski continued, “There needs to be a greater deference to the local churches.”

As a fluent speaker of English, Italian and Polish, with the ability to “get by” in five other languages, Msgr. Strynkowski knows the importance of allowing local churches to flourish according to their own culture and values.

“Insofar as we are a church that gathers, that welcomes and is willing to accept all people, then we are showing the primacy of love,” he said. “We don’t always do that as well as we should, but that is the goal.”

Msgr. Strynkowski concluded with his own personal amendment to the four marks of the church: “We believe in one, holy, catholic, apostolic and humble Church.”

He considers Pope Francis paying for his own hotel room an encouraging effort in this direction. ■

Inspired by “The Poet of Technology”

by Caitlynn Webber '15



Claudia Mirzaali

Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow Harriet Rubin

During the week of March 18, St. Joseph's College welcomed its 10th annual guest lecturer from the Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellows program. Harriet Rubin, best-selling author of *The Princessa: Machiavelli for Women*, *Soloing: Realizing Your Life's Ambition* and *On Dante's Track*, visited the Brooklyn and Long Island campuses to conduct lectures and interactive workshops regarding the true meaning of success, the importance of mentors and the incontrovertible, though often overlooked, value of beauty.

As an author, editor, contributing writer for *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*, literary consultant, lecturer and founder of Currency Books, Ms. Rubin is no stranger to the concept of success. Yet she likens her journey to that of a leaf, directed by wind and chance, as opposed to a bird's charted course.

"Because I never thought I would achieve success, I never looked for it. I was just in love with words, and words were cheap."

Born to two parents who didn't speak English in a home with only one book, Ms. Rubin's passion for words

developed from her ability to model herself after people she admired. The most influential of these mentors — unbeknownst to him — was Steve Jobs.

"Steve was on a quest for freedom," Ms. Rubin said of the late Apple co-founder. "He freed the computer from mainframes. He freed the phone from its wire. He freed music from big record companies. He freed animation from Disney's narrow view of the world. He opened a store without walls."

Over the course of her presentation, "What I Learned From 'The Poet of Technology' — Steve Jobs — About How Success Really Works," Ms. Rubin compared Mr. Jobs to the works and values of both Abraham Lincoln and William Blake, and cited great minds of varying fields, ranging from Virginia Woolf to Oregon Health & Science University's Dr. John Saultz, to establish the true meaning of success and how to achieve it.

The language of success, she explained, should comprise three ideas: poetry, weak ties and storylines. By poetry, Ms. Rubin means the beauty and fluidity of one's work, whatever it may be. She recalled a time, predating iPhones, when Apple had less than 5 percent market share, when she watched Mr. Jobs run his employees through the Apple headquarters parking lot urging them to notice the curves of the Volkswagens and Porsches.

"Steve thought the way to change the world, the way to really bring freedom to people, was to increase the production of beauty," she said. "Steve loved beauty."

"Weak ties" refers to consequential relationships, people you meet on a plane or at a supermarket. Ms. Rubin stressed that those weak ties, established with kindness or by simply saying "thank you," is what will get you a job.

"It is not who you know. It is who you accidentally meet," she said.

Finally, the notion behind storylines is having a goal; knowing what you want to be; and seeing your life as a story you have picked up, one that will carry on after you. "When you start your story, start in the middle," she said. "Ask yourself: If my life were a question what would it be? What would it be an answer to?"

"From the point of view of poetry, weak ties and storylines, everything depends much more on the attitude one takes than on the outer action itself," she concluded. "That is the story of success." ■

Institute for Hospitality and Tourism Management Aims to Rebuild and Protect Long Island's Natural Assets

Earlier this year, St. Joseph's College unveiled the Institute for Hospitality and Tourism Management (IHTM), and on March 13, faculty members voted to approve the creation of a related bachelor's degree program to begin in the fall 2013 semester.

“By way of the Institute, we will partner with our surrounding communities to provide education, research and technical and cultural support to help promote economic and cultural development and ecological conservation,” said Christopher Frost, Ph.D., the Long Island Campus’ academic dean.

"In the face of Superstorm Sandy, we were all reminded how intricately connected we are to our physical place, and how urgent the need is to prepare students to take on the challenge of stewarding our natural resources."

The Institute launched its inaugural speakers series — Common Issues, Unique Solutions: Rebuilding and Protect-

ing Long Island's Natural Assets and Communities — at the Long Island Campus on March 12 with a lecture by Andrew Mowen, Ph.D., of the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management at Pennsylvania State University, and Ariane Rung, Ph.D. of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center. Their lecture, "Disaster Resistance and Resilience: Why Neighborhood Parks Matter," discussed the critical role that park and recreation services can play in fostering community engagement and rebuilding social cohesion after a natural disaster.

On April 10, Daniel Wolff visited the Long Island Campus to present “Disaster Revelations: Losses, gains and rebuilding efforts for a new future.” Mr. Wolff, best-selling author of *The Fight for Home: How (Parts of) New Orleans Came Back*, drew comparisons between Hurricane Katrina and Superstorm Sandy, and discussed what we can watch for in the relief efforts to come. His documentary film *I’m Carolyn Parker* (directed by Academy Award winner Jonathan Demme) was screened in the McGann Conference Center before the lecture.

For more information on the Institute for Hospitality and Tourism Management, visit www.sjcnj.edu/ihtm. ■



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News and Notes

Arts and Sciences

Congratulations to 2013 Summer Faculty Grant recipients **Andrew Jacobs, Ph.D.** (Religious Studies); **Joseph D. Ross, Ph.D.** (Communication Studies); and **Tina Zottoli, Ph.D.** (Psychology). Drs. Jacobs, Ross and Zottoli were selected through a blind review process; each received \$6,650 to continue their research.

Business Administration and Accounting

Charles Pendola, J.D., C.P.A., M.P.S., presented “The Affordable Care Act — Implications for Employers” at a New York State Bar Association seminar on November 30. Mr. Pendola is an attorney with the firm of Rivkin Radler in Uniondale, N.Y.

In August 2012, **Alan Vitters, Ph.D.**, joined with former teammates at the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y. to celebrate the Golden Years of the Army men’s soccer team, which achieved four consecutive NCAA Final Four appearances from 1963 to 1966. Dr. Vitters, a 1968 West Point graduate, was a member of the 1966 team.



Dr. Vitters

Fine Arts

Carol Heft had her work displayed by the Blue Mountain Gallery in Manhattan from January 29 to February 23. The exhibition, “A Window that Shows Me the Moon,” showed works on paper that included collage, drawing, painting, digital images and constructions in a variety of materials, as well as handmade books.

Ayana Mathis published her debut novel, *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* (Knopf), on December 6. The day before its release, it was announced as an Oprah’s Book Club 2.0 selection via Oprah Winfrey’s Facebook and Twitter accounts, which reach 20 million followers. It was also featured in the January 2013 edition of *O, The Oprah Magazine*, with a mention on the cover. A special e-book edition of the novel features exclusive content, including Ms. Winfrey’s personal notes highlighted within the text, and a reading group guide. Ms. Mathis is a new addition to the faculty for St. Joseph’s upcoming M.F.A. in Creative Writing program (see story on Page 18).

History

Phillip Dehne, Ph.D., contributed a chapter, “The resilience of globalisation during the First World War: The case of Bunge & Born in Argentina,” to *The Foundation of Worldwide Economic Integration: Power, Institutions, and Global Markets, 1850-1930* (Cambridge University Press), edited by Drs. Chrisof Dejung and Niels Petersson.

Mathematics and Computer Science

David Seppala-Holtzman, Ph.D., will have a problem and proof published in the upcoming issue of *Math Horizons*, a publication of the Mathematical Association of America, titled, “The triangular pyramid of maximal volume that can be inscribed in a sphere is the regular tetrahedron.” He has also submitted an item to *The College Mathematics Journal* titled “A unit cube topped by a unit pyramid is circumscribed by a unit sphere,” which is currently under peer review.

Philosophy

Michael Burke, Ph.D., presented a paper, “The Other in Stone and Text: Levinas, Art & Literature,” in February at the Midsouth Philosophy Conference at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn.

Professional and Graduate Studies

In November 2012, **Mary Herold** volunteered with the international relief organization Samaritan's Purse to assist families affected by Superstorm Sandy. Ms. Herold and a volunteer team from the First Baptist Church of Patchogue provided an estimated \$10,000-\$20,000 worth of home repairs for a family in Island Park.

Psychology

Earlier this month, **Gilbert Louis, Ed.D.**, presented at the YAI Network's 34th Annual International Conference on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in New York City. His talk focused on getting ready for managed care as it comes to the field of developmental disabilities, and the needed skills that will be necessary to survive and thrive in that arena.

Psychology department members **Paul Ginnetty, Ph.D.**; **Lynn McGoey, Ph.D.**; **Darshanand Ramdass, Ph.D.**; and **Dominique Treboux, Ph.D.**; presented at the Eastern Psychological Conference in New York on March 1-4. Students Colleen Roach and Priscilla McMillan joined with Drs. Ginnetty and Treboux to present "Conceptualizing Spirituality: Belief vs. Non-Belief in a Higher Power."



Dr. Treboux

Dr. Treboux also gave two presentations at the 11th annual Mid-Year Research Conference on Religion and Spirituality at Loyola University Maryland in Baltimore: "Pre- and Post-Hurricane Sandy: Stability and Change in Spirituality and Meaning," with students Colleen Roach, Priscilla McMillan and Ashley Murphy; and "Spirituality, Religiosity, and Mindfulness: Predicting Pro-Social Orientation,"

with Dr. Ginnetty and Department of Religious Studies Chair **Thomas Petriano, Ph.D.**

Social Sciences

William Bengston, Ph.D., gave a series of talks in Germany last summer to mark the translation of his 2010 book, *The Energy Cure* (Sounds True Inc.), into German. In October, his article "The Boggle Factor" was published in *EdgeScience* magazine, and he gave a talk on placebo effects

at the joint Society for Scientific Exploration/Medical Science Network conference in Drogheda, Ireland.

The ninth edition of *Taking Sides: Views on Race & Ethnicity* (McGraw-Hill/Dushkin) by **Raymond D'Angelo, Ph.D.**, has been published and is selling well.

Richard Greenwald, Ph.D., dean of the School of Arts and Sciences for SJC's Brooklyn Campus, published his latest book, *Labor Rising: The Past and Future of the American Working Class* (The New Press), in summer 2012. He also writes a monthly column for *The Atlantic* magazine's "The Atlantic Cities" blog, and has recently contributed essays to *The Huffington Post*, *Businessweek*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *Inside Higher Ed*.



Dr. Greenwald

Kirk Lawrence, Ph.D., received a faculty small grant to begin a project titled, "From Blue Point to Beijing: A World-Systemic History of the Oyster."

Mirella Landriscina, Ph.D., has been granted a sabbatical for the fall 2013 semester to begin a research project on urban real estate value construction. Her study will examine the role of real estate agents in determining of local housing markets.

Stephen J. Rockwell, Ph.D., is on sabbatical this spring as he finishes his monograph, "The Good Presidency: Ethics and Achievement in the Grant, Taft and John Quincy Adams Administrations." He recently published his short essay "How Big Government Won the West" (BookBaby) as a Kindle e-book on Amazon.com.

Speech (Communication Studies)

Yingfan Zhang, Ph.D., presented a paper titled "Prejudice Against Asian Students Test Performance" in Baton Rouge, La., on February 13 at a national joint conference of National Association of African American Studies and the International Association of Asian Studies. On March 28, she will present "Tracing the Footsteps of the Past" at the national conference of Popular and American Culture Association in Washington, D.C.

FOUR STUDENTS RELIVE THE IMPACT OF SANDY

This is an intimate community. Most of our student population is localized, much like our staff and faculty. Part of the advantage of that proximity is the benefit of shared experiences.

For Shannon Rom, Nicalette Isola, Lisa Arquer and Samantha Lotfi, the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy has reinforced an unbreakable relationship with St. Joseph's College. These young women are just four of more than 50 SJC students who reached out for support after the devastating storm wiped out their entire livelihoods. Thanks to the help of their College community, each was provided with financial aid through our Hurricane Sandy Student Relief Fund.

Their voices are gathered here, unique in their individual experience, but resonating the collected effort of rebuilding in their struggle to pick up the pieces left behind. All speak one truth: though more than six months have passed since the storm, the actual physical and mental labor involved in moving forward is more intense than ever.

SAMANTHA LOTFI '14

Lindenhurst, Suffolk County



Robert Amsler

The events of October 29 are, for many, just a fading memory. For me, nothing has faded. For me, when I close my eyes I can still see the floodwaters; the icy gray current that was racing down my street. I can still feel the initial shock of first jumping into the freezing water; I still feel the current pulling wildly at my hips, and the rain and wind hitting me squarely in the face as I made my way down the street. I can still feel the terror rising into my throat with every step that I took to get to my car; the sight of the waves engulfing the hood of my car as we drove for our lives will surely haunt me for the rest of my life. Like the survivors of natural disasters who came before us, and the survivors who will unfortunately come after us, our memories of that nightmarish day have become a part of who we are.

The events that occurred after the hurricane are just a blur. I remember trying to get back to our house the day after the storm. I remember the look on the police officer's face when he told us that our block had been condemned and water had gone into all of our houses. I remember finally being able to get back into our house; I remember how it looked, I remember how it smelled. I remember going into my room and seeing everything I owned thrown all over the floor and soaked in canal water, sewage and oil. I remember how devastating my block looked when we first drove down it. I remember the tears

that I shed looking at priceless things that were lost forever; signatures from my friends in my high school year-books, my diploma. I remember my feelings: disbelief, sorrow, and rage all rolled into one small package. I remember my four family members and I sharing one car. I remember coming back to school. Most importantly, I remember being lead to two angels who picked me up when others did not know how.

S. Karen Donohue and Gianna Hooper need to be recognized for the work that they did and are still doing, and the incredible amount of kindness in their hearts. These two women put up with me bursting into their office at all hours of the day; they gave me food, supplies and invaluable emotional support. Without these two wonderful women, I do not have the slightest idea how I would have gotten through the rest of the semester. They helped me apply to the St. Joseph's College Emergency Fund, which paid a large amount of my tuition for both the 2012 fall semester, and the 2013 spring semester. Without the money that St. Joseph's College gave to me in my time of crisis and great need, I may not have been able to attend school this semester. Without the kindness and endless patience of the two angels who work on the second floor in O'Connor Hall, Hurricane Sandy may have gotten the better of me. It did not, and I am eternally grateful.





Robert Amsler

LISA ARQUER '13

Lindenhurst, Suffolk County

Many people in Lindenhurst underestimated the strength of Sandy. Having lived here for 14 years, high tides and flooding from the canals and the bay was not uncommon. But the tremendous damage that was done from the storm will be forever embedded in my mind. Homes flooded with water as high as five and six feet in some instances. Sewage, mold and contaminants flooded people's homes, garages and cars. The entire town was sequestered by the National Guard.

We lost our flooring, our deck, our clothes, our workout machines, bikes, jackets, blankets, shoes, books, photos — everything imaginable. Every necessity that we take for granted having every day. But worst of all, we lost years of memories.

When such a tragedy occurs, everything in your life stops. I could not help but feel blessed for what I had left, but I was definitely overwhelmed knowing that recovery was going to take a very, very long time.

I had missed two weeks of school, and the minute I stepped back onto the Long Island Campus of SJC, I felt right at home. I had my Theta Phi Alpha sisters running up to me, and calling me every single day to make sure that my family and I were okay. S. Karen Donohue and Gianna Juliano-Hooper [Office of the Academic Dean] found me and said, "Are you OK? I

promise you everything will be just fine, we will help you through it all!" I remember being amazed that they even knew who I was and were so concerned about my family. They gave my family and I two huge boxes with supplies. But above all they provided me with emotional support. They have become my SJC family, and I know that if I were at any other college institution, I wouldn't have been blessed with the same experience.

[Director of Student Activities and Co-Curricular Programs] Marian Russo, and Jeannie Grega in Student Life also were huge influences on my life. Ms. Grega drove 40 minutes to Lindenhurst to hand out 30 hot pizza pies to people clearing out their homes with a huge truck filled with jackets, food and baby formula.

I was so shocked to hear that St. Joseph's would be covering the remaining amount of my finances left before graduation in May. My mom is in the dual MBA program at SJC, as well as my older sister, Jacqueline, who studies marketing. My younger sister, Shannon, is transferring to SJC in fall for speech pathology and my youngest sister, Ashley, is graduating high school this year and just received a beautiful award package from SJC. I sincerely am proud to be a part of higher education that values their students and staff as much as SJC does.



NICALETTE ISOLA '16

Old Howard Beach, Queens



Robert Amsler

Hurricane Sandy had a major impact on my life. Not only did I have six feet of water in my apartment, but my home was completely destroyed, as well as all of my family's belongings. Everything that I had ever owned had been washed away in this tragic storm. The very next day that I came back to see the aftermath of my home, I couldn't believe my eyes. It took a toll on me both mentally and emotionally. I could say that Hurricane Sandy was something I have never experienced before in my life and I pray that no one should ever go through the pain, suffering, life loss and destruction that the people went through that had been affected by this storm.

I lived in a two-bedroom basement apartment in Old Howard Beach, Queens, with my mother. My family and I didn't evacuate because we were in a Zone B area. Around 7 p.m., water started coming out of the walls, windows and through the front door of my apartment. The first thing I grabbed was my dog and some valuable belongings. My mother and I immediately went upstairs to my landlord's apartment; if it wasn't for him and his family we would've drowned. All of our belongings were destroyed: food, shoes, clothing, electronics, diplomas, my textbooks, photo albums. Outside the water was up to the

rooftop of cars. My mother ended up losing her car because the water outside was so high up, the engine completely blew.

The day after the storm, my uncle picked us up and brought us back to his apartment in Whitestone. We had no clothes except for the ones that we had on our back from the night before. We also didn't have any shoes to wear except for the shoes my uncle brought us. The day after, we went back to the apartment to see if we could save any of our belongings. As soon as I walked into our home, the stench was so strong that I couldn't breathe. It was so upsetting to know that everything that I had ever owned was completely gone and covered in sewage. However, I was able to grab most of my sewage-covered clothes and shoes and put it in garbage bags to bring home and wash.

I was so honored when I got a letter in the mail from St. Joseph's College informing me that I had been given [money] towards tuition from the Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund. St. Joseph's did a lot to help their students who had been affected by the storm and they were also extremely generous. I am honored to go to a school that cares a lot about their students and also grateful for the money that I was awarded that is going towards tuition.





Robert Amsler

SHANNON ROM '15

Breezy Point, Queens

Water filled and surrounded the house with my family trapped on the second floor.

We first noticed the fire when chunks of flames started flying passed the windows. It was jumping house to house with such speed we knew we had to leave before it caught us too. My dad threw a surfboard onto the rushing water and put my youngest brother on it, I carried the dog, and my mom, sister and other brother followed him down the block through the high winds and debris filled water. We made it to a neighbor's house where I watched my home of 19 years burn down. The wind and fire then changed course and we had to leave that house too. We eventually made it to another friend's house farther away from the fire, which was where I slept on the floor in wet clothes to the sound of fire engines, hoping that I would wake up and this would have all just been a nightmare.

St. Joseph's College has been a great support system after this whole experience.

They quickly responded with a relief drive and also donated housing to students who could no longer live at home. The Sandy Relief Fund has allowed me to live in the dorms another semester, and it makes life easier for my parents knowing that I'm able to get to and from school easily.

The professors were very understanding about my hardship and as a whole the institution just helped greatly with trying to get my life back on track.

It's still very hard to believe that everything is gone, and it'll be a long time until things are back to normal, but each day we get closer to being home again.

my grandmother's house, which was ruined by the flood. When her house is done we will be able to at least live in Breezy Point again and just continue trying to rebuild our lives.

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It goes without saying that we as New Yorkers have endured difficulties in the past. But natural disasters were never a constant matter of concern. Today, we have to specify which historical storm we're referencing when we simply discuss the last season.

Much has been publicized of the post-Sandy landscape. The news coverage was national, the fundraising concert at Madison Square Garden broadcast globally. But as most things go, after the cameras turn off and the reports die down, local residents are left picking up the pieces. There are still thousands displaced and lifetimes lost to the devastating fires, gusts and flooding.

At St. Joseph's, the only way to move forward was to build a durable support system founded around our already sturdy relationships. Since the days after the storm, the College's Hurricane Sandy Student Relief Fund has served as a manifestation of every ounce of giving that our alumni, staff, faculty and friends could muster.

Immediately after Sandy's full impact was felt, the choice was made to cancel the College's 30th annual Scholarship Gala. Quickly following that first determination was a second: to create the SJC Hurricane Sandy Student Relief Fund. Bolstered by initial donations from the Scholarship Gala's would-be honorees, the Honorable Joan B. Carey '61 and the Rev. Monsignor David L. Cassato, the Fund took immediate shape.

We've since raised an impressive amount for our students who were worst affected by the Superstorm, and are able to help those who were hit worst. Students like Lisa, Samantha, Shannon and Nicalette.

While the Student Relief Fund served as a monetary homebase for those who needed financial assistance, several sites on our campuses became tangible extensions of our efforts — serving those who needed physical assistance, and needed it quickly.

In the days following Sandy, school districts across New York lent their gymnasiums

and auditoriums to house displaced members of the community, but were given no choice but to redistribute these community members once classes resumed. So it was that the John A. Danzi Athletic Center became an emergency home for those displaced in the weeks following the storm. This Humanitarian Relief Project, in conjunction with the American Red Cross, brought together resources and volunteers to serve hundreds who were in desperate need of food, water and, most of all, shelter.

Meanwhile, the Brooklyn Campus teamed up with the Church of St. Luke and St. Matthew on Clinton Avenue to collect and deliver much-needed items. Coordinating with Occupy Sandy Recovery (interoccupy.net/occupysandy), the site became a major distribution center for New York City, coordinating to recovery sites across the boroughs.

To further assist the effort, the College established Collection Relief Centers at the Office of Institutional Advancement in Downtown Patchogue and at the Tuohy Hall Auditorium in Brooklyn. Within hours of publicizing the centers, donations came pouring in. Hundreds of items, from canned food, clothes, blankets, sanitary products and coats piled against the doors. St. Joseph's College, from our assisted students to those affected worse, had once again come together for the cause.

And we're still helping. Folks on both campuses continue to provide assistance for those without access to their homes. We may not have the bountiful resources once raised through our temporary relief centers, but we are still actively giving.

The benefit of such a tragedy is to see the positive light shed in the aftermath. While homes are still being rebuilt and businesses struggle to return to normalcy, many of us found hope through friends and companionship through strangers. For these four SJC students who were generous enough to share their stories after having lost nearly everything, this historic storm provided an unforeseen bond. ■

Remember, though the storm is long gone, there are many students who are still struggling to support themselves and their families. If you'd like to learn more about the Hurricane Sandy Student Relief Fund and what you can do to help, visit giving.sjcny.edu.

INSIDE

THE

A PROFILE OF MARIE PONSOT '40
AND SJC'S NEW M.F.A. PROGRAM

**WRITER'S
FOUNDRY**

By David Henne • dhenne@sjcny.edu

What happened to our quaint Brooklyn Campus, nestled deep within the unassuming Clinton Hill/Fort Greene neighborhood, churning out well-to-do liberal arts graduates and keeping to itself?

Over the past decade, Brooklyn has exploded into a global literary mecca. Artists, authors, musicians, actors and directors rub elbows with other artists, authors, musicians, actors and directors — right on Clinton Avenue, of all places.

Credit Richard Greenwald, Ph.D., for helping St. Joseph's College embrace its ineffable coolness.

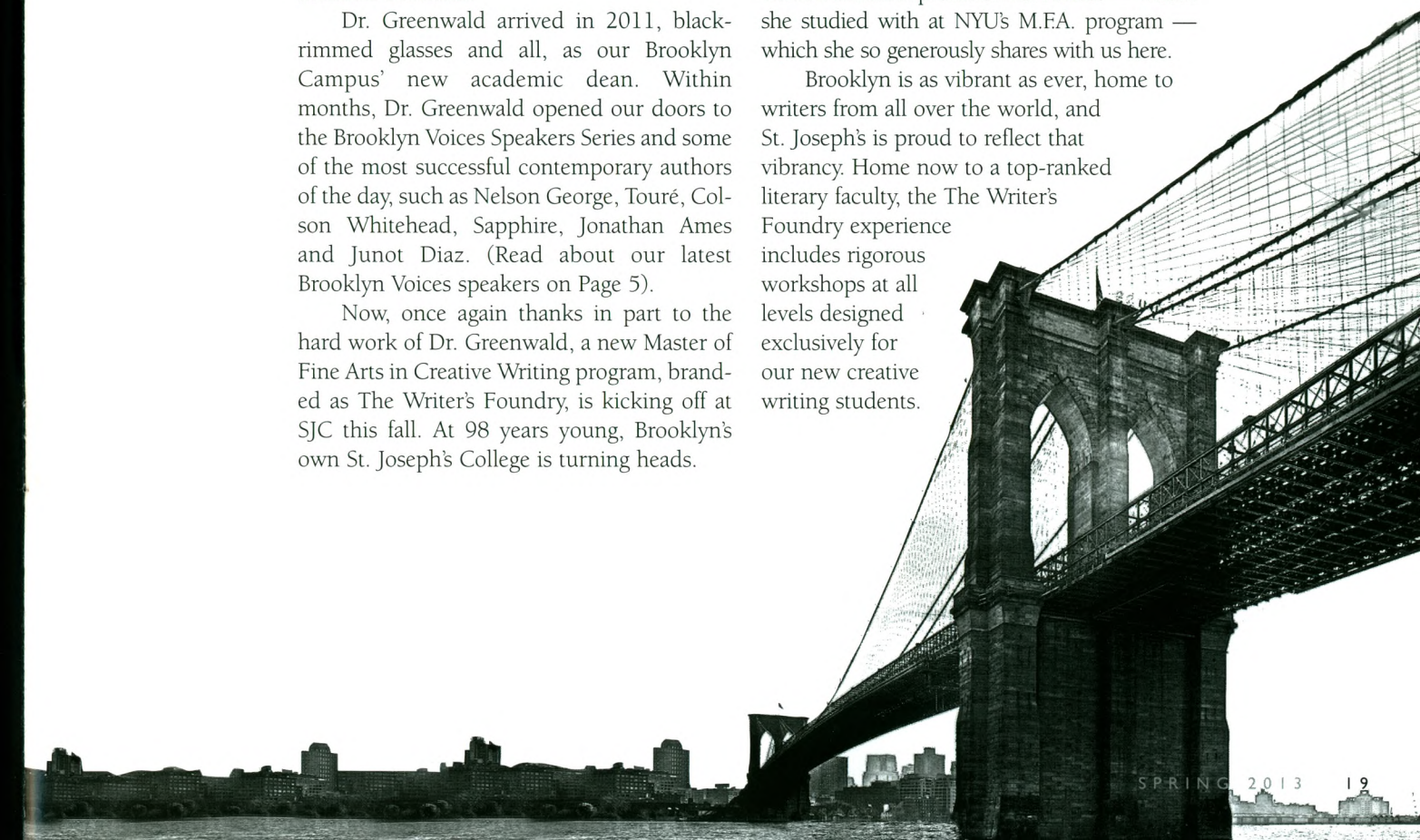
Dr. Greenwald arrived in 2011, black-rimmed glasses and all, as our Brooklyn Campus' new academic dean. Within months, Dr. Greenwald opened our doors to the Brooklyn Voices Speakers Series and some of the most successful contemporary authors of the day, such as Nelson George, Touré, Colson Whitehead, Sapphire, Jonathan Ames and Junot Diaz. (Read about our latest Brooklyn Voices speakers on Page 5).

Now, once again thanks in part to the hard work of Dr. Greenwald, a new Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program, branded as The Writer's Foundry, is kicking off at SJC this fall. At 98 years young, Brooklyn's own St. Joseph's College is turning heads.

But you should know, we've been a fan of Brooklyn since 1916 — before it was cool — and educating hipster poets since the 1930s. Just ask National Book Critic Circle Award winner Marie Birmingham Ponsot '40, for whom the College will name its first endowed chair in creative writing later this year.

Or rather, ask poet L.B. Thompson, who wrote a beautiful profile of Ms. Ponsot — whom she studied with at NYU's M.F.A. program — which she so generously shares with us here.

Brooklyn is as vibrant as ever, home to writers from all over the world, and St. Joseph's is proud to reflect that vibrancy. Home now to a top-ranked literary faculty, the The Writer's Foundry experience includes rigorous workshops at all levels designed exclusively for our new creative writing students.



Ever Present

A Profile of Marie Birmingham Ponsot '40

By L.B. Thompson

The celebrated poet, translator and teacher Marie Birmingham Ponsot attended St. Joseph's College in the 1930s, and her name and influence will continue to be a brightness at St. Joseph's through The Writer's Foundry, a new M.F.A. program in creative writing set to begin this fall. Her life has been, and continues to be, a grand demonstration of the College's mission to lead students toward "a life characterized by integrity, intellectual and spiritual values, social responsibility and service." She has proven that a life of the mind need not be an insulated or solitary life. A great believer in the power and endurance of oral traditions, both narrative and lyric, Ms. Ponsot enjoys giving readings of her own poems, and attending readings by others. She was in attendance at a reading on the Brooklyn Campus last December by her former student Sapphire author of the novel *Push*, who has joined The Writer's Foundry faculty. "[Ms. Ponsot] taught me that there is light in lived life. ... She taught me one need not fear that place she has come to with so much grace and accomplishment," and Sapphire continues, quoting Ponsot's poem, *Pourriture Noble*, "Age is not / all dry rot, / It's never too late / sweet is your real estate."

Marie Ponsot has always prodigiously challenged assumptions about age: she began her studies at St. Joseph's when she was only 15 years old, having sped hungrily through secondary school. Her student days were a time of intellectual voyaging, and she has described the vertiginous joy of being surrounded by books, "The bliss of the open stacks is totally intoxicating ... It's a glorious thing, exciting. It takes care of the impulse to explore and to see radically and be radically different."

Her first book, *True Minds*, was published by City Lights in 1957, and while she doesn't consider herself a Beat poet as other City Lights authors came to be known, her poetry shares with the Beats the great, subversive fun of inventive language. Of course the Beats were not the first poets to revel in the thrilling sounds of poetry. Gerard Manley Hopkins, a particular favorite of Ponsot's, energized 19th-century English poetry with his sprung-rhythm, and that vitality is evident reading his poems today. Speaking of Hopkins, Ponsot argues, "his now is a perpetual now." The same can be said of Marie Ponsot's "now." One of the most valuable aspects of poetry is that it endures by its portability; one cannot so easily carry other great work of art everywhere. The rhythms and rhymes of verse developed to stick in our long-term memories. For this reason, and because memorization helps us get as close as possible to the poems we love, Marie Ponsot encourages her students to memorize poems. This is another way that poems, and by extension the spirits of the poets who created them, encourage us to experience that feeling of a perpetual now.

Memory and imagination have been major subjects in Ms. Ponsot's poetry, and more recently she has found new insights into these functions of the mind after regaining her speech following multiple strokes. She knew that her memories remained with her, and stayed calm when the Lord's Prayer didn't spring forth in English. She tried instead to grab ahold of it in Latin, the language in which she first learned it, and there it was. The memories rushed forth after that initial breakthrough.

Our minds are full of language, and there is redemption in this. It may appear as though Ms. Ponsot writes by looking back on her 92 years of life, but she insists that a great poem is not "about" anything other than the exquisite language from which it

“[MS. PONSOT] ATTENDED ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE IN THE 1930S, AND HER NAME AND INFLUENCE WILL CONTINUE TO BE A BRIGHTNESS AT ST. JOSEPH'S THROUGH THE WRITER'S FOUNDRY, A NEW M.F.A. PROGRAM IN CREATIVE WRITING SET TO BEGIN THIS FALL.”



L.B. Thompson studied with Marie Ponsot in the M.F.A. program at New York University. She is a recipient of a 2010 award for emerging writers from the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation, and an award for emerging women writers from the Rona Jaffe Foundation in 2002. Her work has been published in *The New Yorker*, *Prairie Schooner* and *Stone Cutter*, as well as other literary magazines and websites. She teaches writing at Rutgers University and The New School, and lives on the North Fork of Long Island.

is made. In a 2003 interview for *BOMB* magazine, she was asked to describe what it is like to write a poem that seems to take place during the time she was raising her seven children:

It's very interesting to be able to compare moments of reality, now and then. The coincidence is fascinating. How you can drop, in memory, back into a place and imagine it as if it were present. Imagination is always in the present. Memory remembered is in the present. Imagination is in the present. No matter whether it's of the dimmest past or the second-hand, overheard past. It's still nonetheless in the present tense being imagined right now.

There is a triumph not only in the survival and endurance of the poems we love, but also in the very substance from which we make poems. Actually, in her poem *Skeptical*, Marie Ponsot inverts the very conception of our agency as writers, "Language thinks us. Myth or mouth / we migrants are its mystery." Similarly, she has elsewhere asserted that living a life in poetry, "You have spent time enjoying what your language makes of you."

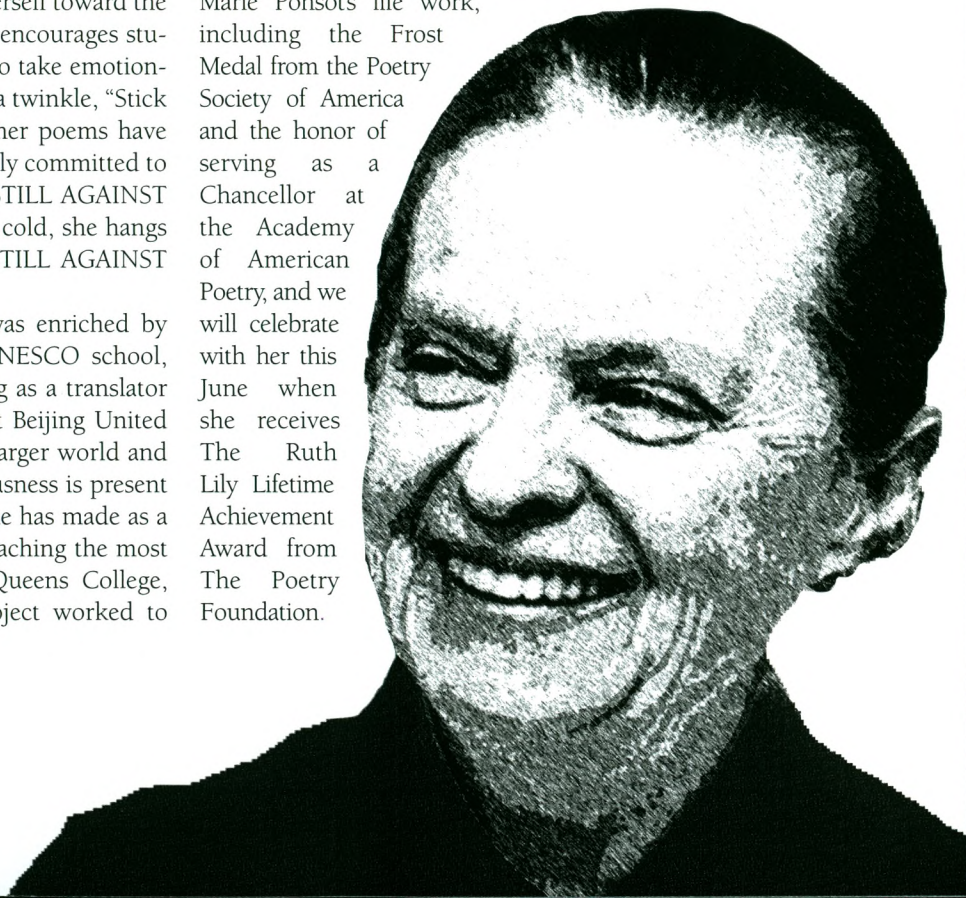
Ms. Ponsot contradicts the clichéd notion of a poet writing alone in a garret, declaring that poetry is social, and suggesting that we seek "whatever we can find in our language to catch the world and offer it to each other." This means staying alert to both beauty and trouble. Despite the fact that her most recent collection is titled *Easy*, Ms. Ponsot has pushed herself toward the radical in her life and her writing. She encourages students to confront their own fears and to take emotional risks, demanding, with a nudge and a twinkle, "Stick your neck out, man." The themes of her poems have been at times political, and she is entirely committed to peace. She is never seen without her STILL AGAINST WAR button, and when the weather is cold, she hangs up her overcoat, to reveal a second STILL AGAINST WAR button on her sweater.

Ms. Ponsot's global perspective was enriched by living in Paris and teaching at the UNESCO school, then supporting her family by working as a translator from the French, and later teaching at Beijing United University. She is ever mindful of the larger world and its many problems. Her social consciousness is present in the classroom, and in the choices she has made as a teacher. She sought the challenge of teaching the most remedial college writing courses at Queens College, and through the Queens English Project worked to

raise literacy standards in local secondary schools. Together with her friend Rosemary Deen, she developed the pedagogy outlined in their books, *Beat Not the Poor Desk* and *Common Sense*. "The method is," she says, "give them writing to do that cannot be done wrong except by not doing it." There is much careful attention but no judgment in Ms. Ponsot's writing classes, and her students cultivate a sophisticated and reliable practice of observation. She respects her students, and expects to learn from them. This philosophy has served literally thousands of writing students and hundreds of writing teachers, and it will surely energize the classes at The Writer's Foundry at St. Joseph's.

Her brilliant blue eyes are always seeking the beautiful, and her delight in successful student compositions is contagious. She values substantive beauty as Keats did, and offers a perspective that complements his axiom, "Beauty is truth, truth beauty." Poetry is, she suggests, *a chance to discover something that might be true and to offer it, to make it public and put it there. It's a place to go look for ways toward truth. By truth, I mean a correspondence in what we perceive with our bodies and what we think in our heads, and when those start to match, you've got something that I like to think of as truth.*

Fellow travelers, perhaps we at St. Joseph's can feel included in the many celebrations of Marie Ponsot's life work, including the Frost Medal from the Poetry Society of America and the honor of serving as a Chancellor at the Academy of American Poetry, and we will celebrate with her this June when she receives The Ruth Lily Lifetime Achievement Award from The Poetry Foundation.



Visit magazine.sjcnj.edu for more on Marie Ponsot.

**AS OUR INAUGURAL
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THE WRITER'S FOUNDRY FACULTY ...**



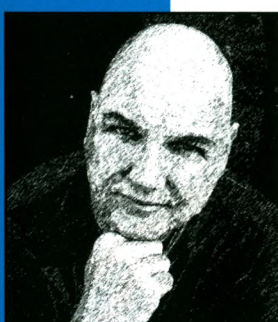
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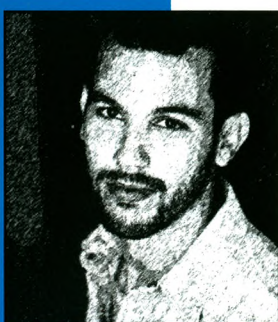
Ayana Mathis



Sapphire



Jackson Taylor



Justin Torres

CHRIS ADRIAN is author of three novels: *Gob's Grief*, *The Children's Hospital* and *The Great Night*. A graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, Mr. Adrian also received his M.D. from Eastern Virginia Medical School in 2001 and attended Harvard Divinity School. He is currently in the pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco.

In 2008, he published *A Better Angel*, a collection of short stories. His short fiction has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Zoetrope*, *Ploughshares*, *McSweeney's*, *The New Yorker*, *The Best American Short Stories* and *Story*. He was one of 11 fiction writers to receive a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2009.

AYANA MATHIS received an M.F.A. from the Iowa Writers' Workshop and is the recipient of the 2011-2012 Michener Copernicus Fellowship and the Iowa Writers' Workshop's Teaching Writing Fellowship.

Her debut novel, *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie*, was named to Oprah's Book Club 2.0 in December 2012. Since receiving the Oprah seal of approval, Ms. Mathis has become an overnight success, shooting up the best-seller lists and garnering large crowds for her national book tour. She is a former fact-checker at *New York Magazine*.

SAPPHIRE is the author of two *New York Times* best-selling novels, *The Kid* and *Push*. The latter inspired the film *Precious*, which won an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Supporting Actress in 2009. Sapphire's work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Spin*, *BOMB* and the *New York Times Book Review*. In 2009, she was awarded a United States Artist Fellowship.

She's published three collections of poetry: *Meditations on the Rainbow*, *American Dreams* and *Black Wings & Blind Angels: Poems*. In December 2012, Sapphire visited SJC as part of the Brooklyn Voices Speaker Series. She opened by reading prose from Marie Ponsot, who was seated in the front row.

JACKSON TAYLOR is the author of the novel *The Blue Orchard*. His short fiction has appeared in *Spit*, *Pink*, *Moss* and *Punk*, and his poems have appeared in *LIT*, *Sleeping Fish*, *Witness*, *Barrow Street* and the anthology, "What's Your Exit?: A Literary Detour Through New Jersey." For more than 20 years he has directed the Prison Writing Program at PEN American Center. In 1996 he co-founded the graduate writing program at The New School, and he has also taught at mediabistro.com, The Fortune Society, Friends of Island Academy and The Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen.

For three years he worked at *The New York Times* in the Culture, Arts and Leisure, and the National desks. He holds a BA from Columbia and an M.F.A. from Sarah Lawrence College.

JUSTIN TORRES grew up in upstate New York and is the author of the novel *We the Animals*. His work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *Tin House*, *Glimmer Train* and other publications. A graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, he is a recipient of the Rolón United States Artist Fellowship in Literature, and is now a Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University. He has worked as a farmhand, a dog walker, a creative writing teacher and a bookseller. ■



making the grAde

by David Henne • dhenne@sjcny.edu

It's tough to identify yourself at 17. For most of us, it's hard enough to classify who we are at 25 or 40. Always fascinating are those with a specific path in mind, especially at a young age — the go-getters, trailblazers, dream-fulfillers.

At a time when many of her peers are still trying to find their voices, St. Joseph's freshman Jannatul Rahman '16 is volunteering at law offices, interning at hospitals and assisting with disaster relief efforts. Not a minute wasted. At 17, she's got the whole thing figured out.

"My plan is to go to med school," Jannatul says. "I'll stay in the city. I want to be a doctor ... I know I can do it, but four years of undergrad and then med school and then residency, that's six more years after this. That's a lot of time in school!"

Already an academic standout before she arrived in Ozone Park from her native Bangladesh in 2006, Jannatul chose St. Joseph's over larger schools because she appreciated the small classes and special attention. Like many SJC students, she knows the relationship between instructor and student should be a special one.

"I took this extracurricular high school class at Columbia med school," Jannatul says. "There were 200 students sitting there. The [lecturer] is talking in this theater, and you're like 'Why am I even here? The teacher doesn't know me, I don't know the teacher. How are they supposed to grade me?'"

A stark contrast to university-sized lecture centers filled with students, St. Joe's gave Jannatul the intimate classrooms and dedicated professors she desired. Having recently completed her second semester at SJC's Brooklyn Campus, she is already grateful for the consideration shown to her by the College (which provided her with a Presidential Scholarship) and its ACES program (from which she's also received a generous scholarship).

For a bright young woman, there is no higher honor than receiving the adulation and praise of those around you. Perhaps equally impressive, however, is the recognition of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Out of 20,000 applicants, Ms. Rahman became one of the finalists awarded a Gates Millennium Scholarship through the Foundation, which will fully fund her school and travel expenses through graduate school.

The Gates Scholars Program selects 1,000 students nationwide to receive a good-through-graduation scholarship to use at any college or university of their choice. The Foundation provides scholars with academic support as well as

personal and professional development through their leadership programs ... and it makes you fill out a lot of paperwork.

"It was a 32-page application. Jannatul says, before describing her future goals as a Gates Scholar/SJC student. "I do want to graduate at the top of my class. That's a dream. Even if that doesn't work out, I want to stay near the top."

For a first-year student with high aspirations and national recognition, Jannatul is making sure she stays on top of her goals. Helping her do just that are specialized SJC programs such as ACES. Jannatul credits the assistance of ACES as a huge factor in getting her exactly where she wants to be in the future.

"They basically provide you with everything," she says. "They have tutoring, extra help, anything you need. I'm there a lot."

A diversity initiative that focuses on recent immigrant students, ACES provides freshmen students with a full-year intensive English course. Instructors introduce a unique style of teaching to encourage participation and improvement. It's no surprise that ACES students, many of whom are on the dean's list, are high achievers at the top of their classes.

"ACES students are highly motivated and have clear career-oriented goals," said Mik Larson, director of the ACES program. "Education is often highly regarded and respected in their immigrant homes, and the students carry that enthusiasm into the classroom, where they look forward to and excel at collaborative learning."

Jannatul's participation in ACES has had an instant impact with her instructors. Professor Catherine Meehan is eager to sing her praises.

"She is simply wonderful. In my writing and literature class, Jannatul offers bright comments, deep curiosity and an unrelenting pursuit to get to the marrow of a text," Ms. Meehan says. "Better yet, she delivers the above with characteristic wit. She can have us laughing at Jay Gatsby, pondering Camus and considering the role of Islam in contemporary America, all within the first 15 minutes of class."

Identity is a hard thing to find. But one thing's for sure: it's hard to find out who you are when you're just a number in a sea of faces. Jannatul knows the key is to find yourself as early as you can. Thanks to the Gates Scholarship and the St. Joseph's College ACES program, she's in a good position.

"Try everything," she says. "I mean, what is there to lose? You're not going to find out unless you go for it. You don't know you're good enough until you try." ■

IN THE BUSIN

“I was
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STU Marketing Communications

ESS OF FAITH

by Valerie Esposito • vesposito@sjcny.edu

What does it take to become a successful educator? Ask S. Maria Pascuzzi '73, S.T.D, and she'll tell you the answer: a degree from St. Joseph's College. S. Maria, dean of the School of Theology and Ministry at St. Thomas University in Miami, is a shining example of the type of educators that SJC has been known to produce. She credits the education she received with helping her to achieve countless accomplishments.

"SJC always seemed like the right place for me because I knew I wanted to be a teacher," S. Maria said. "Throughout my years at St. Joseph's, I did not have one professor whom I have forgotten or to whom I am not indebted for their dedication to my education."

During her years as an English and secondary education major at SJC's Brooklyn Campus, S. Maria was a member of the women's basketball team and student council, and an active volunteer at St. Benedict's Church in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn. In 1972, she felt called to her faith. S. Maria decided to take a year off from her studies to make the commitment to live a vowed life, and participate in a religious mission to spread God's love. She returned to graduate in 1973 as a Sister of St. Joseph, and then moved on to pursue a master's degree at Providence College in Rhode Island.

"When I entered graduate school, I was in classes with people who had attended very prestigious universities," S. Maria said.

"I was a little nervous, but I realized that my education had prepared me to compete with anyone. I received a great education from teachers who were dedicated to helping me develop intellectually, expand culturally and grow personally."

After earning an M.A. in Biblical Studies, S. Maria continued her education abroad. While in Rome, she was awarded a Doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University, attained a Licentiate in Sacred Scripture from the Pontifical Biblical Institute and earned a Bachelor of Sacred Theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. In addition, she studied one year at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, focusing on a special studies program in biblical languages, history, geography and archaeology.

When she returned to the United States, S. Maria began an extensive teaching career at a variety of institu-

tions including Saint Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington and Saint Peter's College in Jersey City. She most recently spent more than a decade as a professor of biblical studies at the University of San Diego before being appointed dean at St. Thomas University in 2012.

"For most of my adult life I have been in the classroom teaching what I love — biblical studies," S. Maria said.

"What I enjoy most is seeing the lights go on in students' minds when they learn that you can be a believer and read the Bible critically without needing to take every word literally. Beyond that, I just can't imagine doing anything other than helping people to gain the knowledge and skills they need to succeed and lead."

As she settles in to her new role at St. Thomas University, S. Maria hopes to ensure that the school's programs are academically rigorous and require application of intellectual skills.

"Some people assume that theology is not a real academic discipline and lacks content, but that would be a mistake," S. Maria said. "I hope to make an impact here."

During her tenure at the University of San Diego, S. Maria was the founding director of the university's Center for Catholic Thought and Culture, created to help USD and its neighbors explore, understand and celebrate what it means to participate in a university community that calls itself Catholic in the 21st century.

S. Maria is an active member of the Catholic Biblical Association of America, the Society of Biblical Literature and the International Advisory Board of the *Irish Theological Quarterly*, and has completed extensive research on earliest Christianity and the texts produced by and for the first believers. She has also lectured and published works on St. Paul's view of the law and the Jewish people, on the role of women in earliest Christianity, and on Paul's gospel within the context of imperial Rome.

S. Maria is a national-level scholar that has truly made the most of her SJC education. For students who are also hoping to be and not to seem, she advises: "Ask questions, be disciplined and come to college for the education, not for the grades. At SJC, you can get the same great educational foundation I received and with that, you can do anything. Make the most of your time." ■

WORKING



For the Benefit of All

For more than 50 years, NASA has been a world leader in space research and exploration. Since its creation during the Eisenhower presidency, NASA has made remarkable discoveries and advancements in aeronautics, launching humans into space and landing the first men on the moon. More recently, NASA also served as host to one of SJC's very own.

Victor Cruz '14, a junior majoring in biology and minoring in chemistry at St. Joseph's Long Island Campus, shows an incessant desire to learn, research and shape a more comprehensive understanding of all things related to natural science. When talking with him, his intrigue and passion for organic chemistry are easily spotted.

But he is not studying astronomy or astrophysics at SJC. So what brought this biology and chemistry student to complete an internship at NASA's esteemed Ames Research Center in Mountain View, Calif.?

Like most, Victor first thought NASA concentrated solely on outer space. "I thought, 'NASA is space and astronauts. What am I going to do with biology and chemistry?'" But when I got there, they said, "We have biology and chemistry here. We have a whole life science [department] at NASA."

In fact, NASA focuses on much more than "space and astronauts." With an annual budget of nearly \$900 million for the Ames Center alone, NASA maintains expertise in areas ranging from information technology, aerospace and aeronautics engineering, to space, Earth, lunar and biological sciences. There, Victor was able to pursue his interests and then some, delving into the study of proteins.

In jargon comprehensible only to scientists, Victor ardently discussed his lab responsibilities and research on chip-based protein crystallization at NASA. He spent three months at Ames experimenting with different proteins and computer chips, testing for ways to get the chips to recognize when the proteins had latched on.

While in the lab, Victor also discovered something else. He learned through hands-on research that his ambitions have shifted somewhat. Though his original plans directed him toward becoming a physician, Victor's interests now lie in research and lab work.

"I like learning how to do something and then applying it, instead of just being the applier," he said. "I still have the feeling that what I'm doing can help save lives, improve the lives of individuals and have such a big impact."

When he is not at NASA drilling nano-sized holes into computer chips and binding various types of proteins to them, Victor keeps busy with several extracurricular activities and clubs on campus. He admits, however, that he did not always see extracurricular involvement as something necessarily beneficial to the college experience. As a freshman, he concentrated exclusively on schoolwork.

"When I first began [at St. Joseph's College], I really didn't join any clubs," Victor said. "I thought I was just going to

be here for the school ... But I knew, to do better for myself and to get more opportunities, I had to get more involved."

Sure enough, he was able to turn it around. In his second semester, Victor went from having virtually no extracurricular involvement to participating in various organizations on campus. Now, he says, "I like to get involved with anything I can."

And he has certainly done just that. Victor is currently a member of Students Taking an Active Role in Society (STARS) club and a tutor in the College's academic center. Since coming to St. Joseph's, through internship or volunteering opportunities, he has taken trips to three states and three countries.

Victor participated in two alternative spring break trips with STARS, travelling to Pensacola, Fla., to clean up after the massive oil spill in 2010 and to Joplin, Mo., to aid the rebuilding efforts after 2011's catastrophic tornado. In 2011, he completed an internship for MEDLIFE (Medicine, Education, and Development for Low-Income Families Everywhere) where he helped provide checkups and medical screenings to impoverished people in Peru. And through the Freshman Global Experience program, Victor visited Greece and Italy.

These trips were more than chances to travel. For Victor, they were opportunities to further his education. "Really, education does not end in the summer when school ends," he explained. "It continues. It always continues."

Some ingredients to Victor's success are his unparalleled work ethic, gusto for helping others, love for learning and readiness to grab all opportunities available to him.

"Take advantage of everything," he advises. "Any opportunities you can take advantage of, just do it."

Victor's enthusiasm, paired with his knack for seizing opportunities, has allowed him to get the most from a fruitful college experience. But most importantly, he has enjoyed the ride so far. Victor raves about the department and some of his favorite professors. He emphasizes the excitement that each professor brings to his schooling, making it well known that each has strongly influenced the scope of his educational foci in one way or another.

Victor has undoubtedly accomplished a great deal throughout his short academic career. The former Wyandanch High School valedictorian and Presidential Grant recipient has a couple of impressive internships under his belt, a stellar GPA and a mound of volunteer experience.

And much like NASA, Victor's vision is set on attaining new heights and discovering the unknown — as the agency's motto declares — "For the Benefit of All." Victor hopes to take what he has learned, continue to build on it through another internship, graduate from St. Joseph's College, gain entrance into a graduate program for chemical biology and eventually get published for further research on proteins and other areas of organic chemistry. From there, the sky is the limit. ■

ONE DRESS at a TIME



There are currently more than 20 million high school-aged students in the U.S., many of whom share a very common goal — to have the time of their lives at their high school proms. For some, it is an easily attainable goal that includes traveling to the store and purchasing the prom dress (or tuxedo) of their choice. For others, attending the prom can be more difficult when it is a struggle to afford the necessities so many of us take for granted.

In 2005, Operation PROM, a national not-for-profit organization, was established to help students in need attend their proms at little or no cost by providing free prom dresses and tuxedo rentals. Since then it has expanded to include regular donations of clothing and school supplies to students who are sick, homeless or live in shelters.

During her senior year at St. Joseph's College, Meaghan Chambers '13 was searching online for an organization that would accept her donation of formal dresses when she discovered Operation PROM. What she also discovered was the need for a Long Island chapter that would serve both Nassau and Suffolk counties.

"I had a wonderful prom experience. My friends and I had the best time that night and I will never forget it," Meaghan said. "Those memories made me want to give other girls the opportunity to enjoy themselves as much as I did."

So, she decided to establish her own chapter by contacting Noel D'Allacco, founder and president of Operation PROM. After completing an application and phone interview, Meaghan was approved by the board of directors at Operation PROM and started working toward her mission.

"When I spoke to Meaghan, I could tell she would be dedicated to Operation PROM," Ms. D'Allacco said. "Meaghan is a go-getter with a warm personality and positive attitude. It is so important to have young people on our team, making a difference in their communities. Meaghan is just the type of person we look for at Operation PROM."

Since then, Meaghan has turned her Lindenhurst home into an Operation PROM headquarters, with a constant stream of volunteers, interns (including SJC senior Stefanie Tartaro '13) and dresses flowing in and out.

"I have always been involved with community service projects, so simply donating dresses didn't seem like enough to me," Meaghan said. "I personally felt that I needed to do something on a larger scale. The most rewarding part about Operation PROM is having the ability to make someone's prom dreams come true. Knowing they will have those memories to cherish all because of our team and our mission is a wonderful feeling."

As a student, Meaghan switched paths a few times before finding her niche as a communications studies major. She was also an active member of the Zeta Sigma Phi Sorority, the Orientation Team, Nicaragua Project, Art Club and Go Green Club. Even with her extensive list of extracurricular activities and a full class load, Meaghan graduated from the Long Island Campus in December 2012, one semester early. She is currently preparing her graduate school applications, although she hopes to return to SJC to earn an M.S. in Human Resources Management.

"St. Joseph's was the best fit for me and I loved being involved in the college community," Meaghan said. "The classes were interesting and every teacher I had was so helpful and influential on the path I had chosen."

By hosting events and accepting private donations, she hopes to one day be able to provide dresses for every girl in need on Long Island. Meaghan finds her greatest challenge to be space for storing the dresses she has received and is currently seeking donated storage space from local businesses. Her Long Island chapter of Operation PROM partnered with SJC's Diamond Club to host dress collection drives throughout the month of February. Private donations can be arranged by contacting Meaghan directly at meaghan@helpprom.org.

"SJC is a wonderful school with so many opportunities to have fun while networking at the same time," Meaghan said. "I would advise each and every student to get involved with community service projects, both on and off campus. They offer a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment that paying jobs just cannot give you." ■



Robert Amster



Robert Amsler

ON THE SHOULDERS OF **GIANTS**

While escorting us on a tour through the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Brentwood, N.Y., S. Karen Burke '81, C.S.J., Ed.D., pauses at the Sacred Heart Chapel. She points above the columns to the statuettes of mounted saints, all of whom are female. These women of stature — embodiments of strength and progress — are at the heart of S. Karen's work as a Sister of St. Joseph.

"We stand on the shoulders of giants," she says, referencing those saints and sisters who inspired so many during their lifetimes, and generations more after passing on. Their lingering spirits are evident within S. Karen, now a professor at Western Connecticut State University and global ambassador for empowerment through education.

"I think it's through St. Joseph's College that I have that spirit and passion for lifelong learning," S. Karen says. "I will never stop learning, and I know I received that through the influence of SJC — especially the sisters there."

Before realizing she would devote herself as a Sister of St. Joseph, S. Karen had a desire to study at a Catholic school and become an educator. Within her first year after arriving at St. Joseph's College's Brooklyn Campus, S. Karen was astounded by the strong sense of community within her classes, and the tremendous influence of the women who taught within those walls.

"To me it was such a sense of empowerment to see them: women who saw education as a way to change the world, to change the social structures that exist. Especially the sisters there, I saw women who were getting their doctoral degrees in a time when women weren't getting high school diplomas."

As an academic standout, S. Karen spent her undergraduate years immersed in College clubs and activities, and as a guard with the Lady Bears women's basketball team. With such a deep engagement in the school, S. Karen's mother would joke that she should move her bed into Tuohy Hall. The suggestion was a prophetic one, as S. Karen would go on to live amongst her SJC kin as a devoted Sister of St. Joseph.

"I wanted to do some type of volunteer work over the summer [freshman year], so I was directed to the Sisters of St. Joseph who were doing work in Appalachia," S. Karen says. "I came back, committed to my work in education but also with something in the back of my head — knowing I wanted to be a Sister of St. Joseph."

A Class of 1981 graduate with a B.A. in Child Study, S. Karen went on to attain an M.S. from the College of New Rochelle and fulfill her dream of becoming a Sister of St.

Joseph. But she wasn't done yet. S. Karen's aspiration of earning a doctoral degree was also within her grasp — the goal she first set for herself after admiring those spiritual and academic giants who taught her at SJC.

"I was so impressed with all of the sisters who were there — S. Jean Amore, S. Helen Kearney, S. Rosamond O'Keefe, S. George Aquin, S. Mary Florence, S. Margaret Buckley, S. John Raymond — these were just women that were so well educated, and I knew then that I wanted to get a doctoral degree."

After years of dedication and perseverance, S. Karen earned her doctorate degree in education from St. John's University. She returned to St. Joe's to teach for several years, from 1998 to 2004, in the same child study department that helped her initially develop as an educator.

Now a professor in the Instructional Leadership Doctoral Program at Western Connecticut State University, S. Karen splits her time between assisting future educators and traveling across the world, spreading charity and learning to those who need it most.

"I work internationally with women that have been sexually exploited and live in dire poverty," S. Karen says. "In the past 10 years I've had the chance to travel to more than 35 countries. A strong focus of my life is really about empowerment through education — especially

with women who don't have the opportunity."

For an educator with a lifetime of exposure amongst empowered women, S. Karen now passes on the knowledge she was given to all those who surround her. And the more she leads international groups to their potential during her travels, the more she appreciates the domestic work awaiting her at home.

"I see that we have so many opportunities here that many women don't. Just one year of education help can change a woman in Africa's entire life. And we sometimes forget that. So by going to these places it reminds me what we can be doing more on a local level."

S. Karen knows her path was forged by those who came before her. As a young student, she admired the ambitions and achievements of the bold women lining the Chapel at the Sacred Heart, and those who reside at St. Joseph's College.

"[St. Joseph's] was influential to what I saw as the mission — moving us forward as educators and lifelong learners in order to educate ourselves and empower others," S. Karen says. "Living out my spirituality through providing educational opportunities. This is the life that I want to live." ■

I think it's through
St. Joseph's College
that I have
that spirit and
passion for
lifelong learning.

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ALUMNICONNECTIONS

Class Notes

Brooklyn

1940s

Helen Brancato Donato '43 and her husband, John F. Donato, have been married for 69 years. They have seven children, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. They are very grateful for God's blessings.

Mary O'Keefe McGahon '48 is retired.

Annabelle Mealey Skoglund '49 is keeping busy with church and her seniors and literacy class. She has three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

1950s

Marie Guarracini Cimino '50 and her husband, Vincent, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on November 22, 2012, at a Mass at St. Vincent Martyr Church in Madison, N.J., followed by a reception at the Madison Hotel. Their son, Dr. Tony Cimino, is married and lives in Florence, Italy. Their other son Paul-Andrew and his family live in Madison, N.J.

Mary A. Rossman '50 spent her entire teaching career in Brooklyn, and now shares her home with **Teresa H. Rossman '50**, who is helping to keep her as well as possible.

Teresa H. Rossman '50 has had a very healthy and active life traveling and working in New York, London and Paris. Now at retirement age, she has experienced health problems, but she accepts them graciously and calmly.

Jean Vallone Gagliardo '51 is very active as a local and state officer for the Order Sons of Italy Fraternal Organization.

Marion Orlando Celenza '53 authored a menu cookbook in December 2011.

Ann M. Knapp '55 is still giving tours in the galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The past five years, **Mary Feeney Dwyer '56** has taught and served as director of the creative writing program she created called 2Rs4fun. She teaches third- and fourth-grade students from public schools in Shelter Island.

Brenda Buckley Johnston '57 has lost her long- and short-term memory. She is doing better, and is currently in an assisted-living facility.

Philomena Nicoletti Fiorello '59 and her husband, Frank, have enjoyed living in Punta Gorda, Fla., for the past 15 years. They are very proud of their three grandchildren who attend Charlotte High School in Punta Gorda.

1960s

Vincentia Termini Dobson '60 and her husband, Ronald, attended the summer wedding of Shawn Fallon, son of Frank and **Kathleen Walsh Fallon '60**. **Grace Martin Cipriani '60** also attended. Vincentia and Ronald celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with three weeks at Lago Maggiore Lake in Northern Italy.

The Class of 1962's 50th anniversary luncheon in April 2012 was a truly memorable event, says **Mary Collins Macchiarola '62**. Forty-nine "golden girls" happily renewed old friendships, recalled fond College memories and shared their journeys since graduation.

Rosemary McDonald Ahern '62 and her husband, Thomas, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this past July. In September, they traveled to the Holy Land with their son, **the Rev. Thomas Ahern '85**, who officiated at the renewal of their wedding vows at Cana (Father Tom was also the celebrant at the Class of 1962's 50th anniversary Mass in April 2012.)

Mary Gallagher Alban '62 finds life in Ashburn, Va., a wonderful experience. She now plays mahjong and enjoys the challenge. Mary and her husband, John, recently enjoyed a land tour and cruise in Alaska. They also enjoy family visits and functions with their 10 grandchildren.

Anne Bagnini Alpert '62 and her husband, Marty, retired to Jacksonville, Fla., five years ago. They have five children and three grandchildren. Anne founded a magnet school in Norwalk, Ct., an inter-district charter school in Bridgeport, Ct., and the state's first charter school. All are still thriving. Presently with a string quartet, Anne continues to play piano. "St. Joseph's College for Women changed my life," she says.

Vera Lista Banach '62 and her husband, Richard, now reside in Aberdeen, N.J. Their two sons, Rich and Tom, live in Kentucky and South Carolina, respectively. While Vera and Rich still maintain a getaway home in the Poconos, they spend winters in Florida and Mexico. They

recently enjoyed a Mediterranean cruise to the Greek Islands.

Stephanie Becht Carty '62 retired from teaching in 2004, and loves it. She and her husband audit classes in local colleges "to keep the brain functioning." Because she is five inches shorter than she was in 1962, Stephanie is devoted to exercising to avoid "shrinking anymore." Stephanie boasts of her two children and five grandchildren, and she is a mother's helper to her daughter.

Margaret "Peggy" Cahill Colome '62 and her husband, Paco, are retired and living in Brooklyn. They enjoy their weekend house in Pennsylvania, and love babysitting their two grandchildren, Matthew and Eric.

Mary Diemer Conte '62 is the mother of four, and grandmother of five. She is retired from teaching, but keeps busy with her raspberry farm, as well as spinning, knitting and weaving wool from sheep. Mary also does R.C.I.A. at her parish.

Martha Fitzpatrick Dixon '62 and her husband, Frederick, enjoy collecting art, and are docents at the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia. Pablo Picasso's granddaughter was a spectator on one of their tours. Martha also relaxes with knitting and crocheting.

Joan Corcoran Fordham '62 and her husband, Jim, are enjoying retirement in Kitty Hawk, N.C., with all its local activities. They also delight in visits from their five grandchildren.

Barbara Burghardt Geary '62 works at the Brooklyn Museum. She paints in pastels, and is a member of the Bay Ridge Festival of the Arts. Barbara is the mother of five and grandmother of seven. She visited Switzerland last spring, and then went on to Ireland to visit her daughter.

Joanne Collins Hafke '62 is retired, and has been living in Florida with her husband, Kenneth, for nine years. They travel in their R.V. in their spare time.

After many years administrating a Lay Formation Program in the Diocese of Rockville Centre, **Margaret Hanley '62** (also known as **S. Mary Lauren Hanley, C.S.J.**) currently ministers at St. Joseph's Parish in Wantagh, doing retreats, giving spiritual direction

and working with parents. She says the slower pace affords more time for friends and travel.

Connie Aievoli Kolb '62 lives in New York City and volunteers at the Museum of Natural History. She recently became a great-great-grand-aunt.

Carole A. Rosewell Maher '62 has been involved in a small ballet company in Fullerton, Calif., where she performs every December in the party scene of *The Nutcracker*.

Concetta LaVeglia Mauro '62 is still working, enjoying the activity and the joy of feeling young. Connie's grandchildren — Robert, Austin and Evie — are the real loves of her life. Just ask her husband, Phil.

Catherine Davis McKeon '62 and her husband, Robert, live in New Hope, Penn., and enjoy traveling frequently in Europe and the U.S. Their two children, Rob and Karen, live in Hoboken, N.J.

Anne Farnan Mocker '62 and her husband, Joseph, were married 50 years in August. They administered the R.C.I.S. program in their parish for 20 years, and Anne lectors as well. They have a daughter and granddaughter. Anne still works part-time as a receptionist in a local hospital. Anne is "very pleased with how St. Joseph's prepared me for life!"

Lorraine Herbert Mund '62 is a part-time professor at Nassau Community College. Her recently released CD, *Gender Benders*, is a collection of Broadway hits for men. Her poetry collection, *And a Time For Every Purpose*, was released in June. Lorraine still performs at senior centers and nursing homes. She thoroughly enjoys her four grandchildren.

Peggy La Salle Nicora '62 and her husband, Bernard, celebrated 50 years of marriage in June 2012. They celebrated for a weekend with their children and grandchildren at Woodloch Pines in Pennsylvania, and later enjoyed a cruise from Paris in August.

Patricia Sweeney '62 visited Peggy in Florida last winter, and both attended an SJC alumni reception in Fort Myers, along with **Maria Cupo Marasco '62** and **Alice Sheridan D'Anna '62**.

Long Island WINE TASTING TOUR



**Saturday
June 22, 2013**

For more information,
contact the Long Island
Office of Alumni Relations
at 631.687.2652
or alumni@sjcny.edu.

A DAY AT THE RACES

Belmont Park



**Saturday
September 21, 2013**

For more information,
contact the
Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations
at 718.940.5576
or alumni@sjcny.edu.

Spotlight: Barbara Conley '69

by Marcy Boyle '69



In February 2013, Class of 1969 graduate Barbara Conley closed out a distinguished career after 25 years as director of the Office of Child Welfare Services and director of planning for Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens (CCBQ). Barbara's sojourn from a St. Joseph's College history major to one of the most influential child welfare professionals in New York state reflects well on both the academic and value-based education she received at SJC, and at Fordham University where she earned a Master of Social Work in 1973.

Barbara became a social worker by default when, shortly after graduation, she had an opportunity to join a work-study program at Angel Guardian Home. In that role, and later as an administrator, Barbara was responsible for the futures of hundreds of children, either through helping them reunite with their families or through placement with adoptive families.

At Catholic Charities, Barbara directed a federation of nine affiliated child-welfare agencies, coordinating and facilitating interagency activities and responses to policy, legislation and regulatory requirements impacting on child-welfare services in New York City. "Every year, not-for-profits face budget cuts, and much time and energy must be directed to advocacy to restore or add monies to the budget," Barbara observed. "Over and over again, not-for-profits must prove their worth, even as the demand for their services increases."

Barbara also administered a nationally and internationally recognized program at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility that fostered the ties between children and their incarcerated mothers. The ultimate goal of the program was not only to strengthen the family unit and motivate the mothers to work to be united with their children, but also to break the familial cycles of violence and drug abuse.

As director of planning, Barbara was in the middle of one of the most controversial challenges that has faced Catholic not-for-profit institutions. In 1973, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) alleged in a class-action suit that religiously affiliated child care agencies provided foster-care services with public funds in violation of the Establishment and Free Exercise clauses of the First Amendment, and that policies of racial and religious matching of foster children denied equal access to services in violation of the Equal Protection Clause.

The case, *Wilder v. Bernstein*, remained alive in federal court for more than 25 years. While it was agreed that the agencies could receive federal funding, a complicated settlement was reached in 1986 to ensure that all children had equal access to the best services (Catholic-sponsored child-welfare agencies were ranked amongst the best). The ACLU subsequently expanded the case to include a challenge to these agencies' position on access to family planning and abortion services for children in their care.

"While that case was eventually resolved in 1998, new challenges are on the horizon — same-sex adoptions and the federal mandate on inclusion of birth control services in all health care plans," Barbara explained. "To face those problems successfully, institutions like Catholic Charities need deeply committed people with the skills like critical thinking, collaboration and strategizing that my education at St Joseph's gave me as a foundation."

Ever true to her commitment, working with SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., and Provost S. Loretta McGrann, C.S.J., Barbara spearheaded a collaborative agreement between the College and Catholic Charities that encourages CCBQ staff to complete their college and graduate education in St. Joseph's programs, which are specifically designed to be user-friendly to working individuals.

"I feel very lucky to have gone to St Joseph's," Barbara said. In addition to an excellent education, I have made lifelong friends." Here is Barbara's advice for today's SJC students: "True change takes time, and often there are a couple of steps backward before you can really move forward. Time is a positive; it is not an enemy." ■

Tell Us Your Story

Share your news in the Class Notes section of
SJCNY: St. Joseph's College Magazine.

Send your items to the Office of Alumni Relations:

Brooklyn Campus
Lisa Trinidad
ltrinidad@sjcny.edu

Long Island Campus
Daria Liles Tator '03,
dtator@sjcny.edu

Elizabeth Rasicot Porterfield '62 volunteers visiting patients at Mercy Hospital, accompanied by dogs. She also travels twice a week to visit her two grandsons.

Jacqueline Vivona Rice '62 has five children and 11 grandchildren in five states. Jacqueline resides in Greenville, S.C. She was widowed in 2006, and now lives with her active 100-year-old mom. Jackie retired from BMW in 2007, and has traveled throughout Europe. She is currently in a Sweet Adelines chorus and loves choral singing.

Miriam Dooley Ross '62 is retired from teaching, but continues to sub for Eastern Suffolk BOCES. Miriam is very proud of her three grandchildren.

Dorothy Montouri Ryan '62 retired in June after 47 years of teaching, mostly fifth grade. She looks forward to the future, especially enjoying her six grandchildren.

Margaret Williams Schroder '62 has retired after 27 years of teaching. She keeps busy and happy with her 10 grandchildren. Margaret also continues into her 42nd year teaching religious education.

Joan Johnston Sterner '62 is the proud mother of three daughters, two living in New York and one in Oregon. Joan has been an EMT serving on the Woodstock (Vt.) Ambulance Service since 1995. She is also a part-time receptionist/EMT at the Mt. Ascutney Hospital E.R. in Windsor, Vt. Delivering a baby in 2011 was Joan's greatest thrill.

Susan Hake Surplus '62 recently took first place in her condo association's chili cook-off. Spice is good!

A few members of the class of 1964 celebrated their 70th birthdays in December 2012. SJC President **S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J.**, was joined by **Mary Hilgemman, Patricia McNulty Kushner, Mary Brennan Mulvihill, Mary Noberini, Joellen Sheehan, Mary Morgan Tirolo** and **Elizabeth Groarke White**. They started with an architectural walking tour of the City Hall area, followed by high tea at the

Crosby Street Hotel. They then went to a Christmas concert at St. Mark's Church and ended their night with dinner at Il Grigio's on Warren Street.

Deidre Connelly Galvin '64 is retired and lives in New Jersey with her husband. She volunteers at the Church of the Nativity in Midland Park in the Care Ministries. Deidre spends her summers in the Belgrade Lakes, Maine. She visits her two granddaughters in Virginia and her grandson in Baton Rouge, La.

Margaret Harrington '64 visited Vienna and Poland. In Vienna she and her colleagues were celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Austria American Educational Cultural Association and the partnership that they developed 20 years ago. Their visit to Poland was an add-on, as none of the partners had been to that country before. They visited Kraków and Warsaw, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Rose Marie Dunphy '65 published her debut novel, *Orange Peels and Cobblestones*, in 2012.

Joan Miley Danehy '66 has six grandchildren ranging from high school seniors to twin first-graders. Joan was

looking forward to her 50th anniversary high school reunion in March.

Ellen Kilgannon O'Leary '65 has three beautiful grandchildren: Elizabeth, Robert and Matthew.

Francine Decario Heffernan '66 enjoys working as a substitute teacher in Boca Raton, Fla. She has four grandchildren ranging in age from 3 to 15.

Joyce Marchetta Bisso '67 celebrated the third birthday of her grandson Wesley Ford Lichtenstein. Joyce was appointed superintendent of Hewlett-Woodmere Public Schools. She thoroughly enjoyed the recent reunion with her classmates.

Marybeth O'Neill McVie '67 enjoyed her career as a speech-language pathologist, but is now busier as ever in her retirement.

Rose Farrell Lowe '68 was appointed and sworn in as an associate justice of the Village of Westhampton Beach, N.Y.

Class of 1969 graduate **Kathleen Donnellan Allison's** eldest daughter, Kristen Allison, got married while continuing her Ph.D. program in speech language pathology. Her youngest



Members of the Class of 1964 Scholarship Committee decided to celebrate their 70th birthdays with a set of different activities. In September 2012, they began the festivities with a weekend trip to Philadelphia to visit the new Barnes Foundation museum, plus a special dinner. Pictured are **Peg Harrington, Mary Morgan Tirolo, Betty Groarke, Mary Noberini, Pat McNulty Kushner, Elaine Flanagan Ciccone and Mary Hilgeman**.

daughter, Lindsey Allison, graduated with a master's degree in occupational therapy, and is recently engaged. Kathleen and her family ended their year with an amazing family vacation, bareboat sailing in the British Virgin Islands.

Congratulations to **Marynita Anderson '69**, who has been promoted to a full professor at Nassau Community College. She is the faculty adviser for the Newman Club and the Gaelic Society. Marynita has enjoyed traveling to France, Switzerland, Germany and Italy. Her holidays are spent with her two sons in Seattle. She recently has fulfilled her lifetime goal to see the Oberammergau Passion Play in Bavaria, Germany, where the publisher of her revised doctoral dissertation, "Physician Heal Thyself," is based. Marynita spends her leisure time drawing and painting.

Ingrid Balady '69 continues ballroom dancing and entering competitions. She's recently won three trips: Orlando, a resort vacation and a cruise. Ingrid loves being a snowbird, enjoys reading and is known as the "Thrift Store Maven" in the parts of Boynton Beach.

Patricia Devane Bell '69 recently traveled west for two months to Scottsdale, Ariz. Patricia celebrated St. Patrick's Day in the Phoenix area. **Lorene McHale Lindahl '69** and her husband visited Patricia for several days from their home in Las Vegas.

Rose Marie DeBonis Filocco '69, has retired from teaching. She has four grandsons and two granddaughters. She enjoys gardening, golf, reading and visiting her grandsons in New Jersey.

Anna Perrone Geary '69 and her husband, Bob, have been on two cruises:

one to Canada and the other to the Panama Canal. She has also organized land tours and took participants to various places in Europe. Last April, Anna took a group of Carmelite seculars to Spain to follow the route of Carmelite foundations by St. Teresa of Avila. In May, Anna will be taking a group from her local university to Scotland and England.

Marie DeRita Passero '69 has four grandchildren. She was able to meet up with **Catherine Garone Dede '69** and her husband, Anthony Dede, during their son's wedding.

Roseann Quinn '69 is still teaching English to ninth- and 10th-graders at Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons High School in Schenectady, N.Y. Roseann is currently working on a grant proposal on using the Internet for vocabulary to obtain laptops for her students. She has also been chosen as a Common Core facilitator for her school, where she trains teachers.

S. Mary Ross '69, C.S.J., was appointed to the New York State Board of Parole by then-Governor David A. Paterson in 2008. She is the first SJC graduate and the first Sister of St. Joseph to be appointed to the board. Her term is up August 2013.

Valerie McGann Stolfi '69 is very proud of her daughters: Tricia Stolfi Collins, who is an assistant district attorney at Centre Street in New York City; Jackie Stolfi, who is a freelance producer; and Valerie Stolfi Collins, who is an executive director of the nonprofit Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association.

1970s

Barbara Gallagher Langan '70 has retired from the New York City Department of

Education and is taking care of her grandson Martin, who turned 1 in December.

Maureen Hines Adinolfi '71, Elaine Thoenen Mastrapasqua '71 and Ellen McMorrow '71 attended their high school reunion at Bishop Kearney High School in Manhattan.

Elaine Thoenen Mastrapasqua '71 and her husband, Stephen, attended a Civil War reenactment in Gettysburg, Pa., and had a very comprehensive enlightening tour of the immense battlefield. They also enjoyed their summer camping and fishing and attended three Yankees games. Elaine achieved 10 years with the Saratoga YMCA in November and retired in December. She hopes to take an Alaskan cruise this year to celebrate her 35th anniversary on September 30.

Mary Brown Singer '71 lives in Bronxville, N.Y., and continues to work in administration for the Archdiocese of New York.

Mary L. Zini '71 has been voted Best Female Teacher at Mount Vernon (N.Y.) High School by the administration and senior class.

Members of the **Class of 1972** had a great turnout for their 40th reunion last spring, taking up almost five full tables at the event.

Barbara Brinkmann Hughes '72 is very busy hosting numerous visitors in addition to traveling to Manitoba, Canada, to see the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Other travels include visits to Orlando, Fla., to see **Marianne Anastasio Jerome '72**. From there, it's on to Virginia Beach, Va., to see her new grandchildren, then to New York to visit her 90-year-old mom. She hopes to be able to join her classmates at their next celebration.

Christine Guardia Kopyt '72 resides in Connecticut and plans on retiring next year.

Class of 1972 graduates **Lois Caracciolo, Catherine A. Fay, Eileen Moffatt and Dianne Piwinski** are all retired. **Maria I. Johnson, Therese A. Murphy, Virginia Giordano Savarese and Catherine Steinmann** are all contemplating retirement.

Therese Camack Collins '72 celebrated her 30th year at Deloitte & Touche. She is the national director of employee relations

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For more information, contact **Catherine Vitucci '04** at 631.687.2654 or cvitucci@sjcny.edu.

for the United States, and is proud that Deloitte has just marked its 13th year on *Fortune* magazine's 100 Best Companies to Work For list, and is on the top-10 list of *Working Mother* magazine's 100 Best Companies for Working Moms. Therese lives in Connecticut with her partner of 12 years, Michael Long, and their four cats. She has a 2-year-old granddaughter and another on the way. Therese's hobby over the years has been theater, both in the audience and behind the scenes as a producer and publicity director for a local community theater.

Patrick Tracy, brother of **Elizabeth Tracy O'Brien '72**, is director of Campus Ministry at St. Joseph's Long Island Campus.

Barbara Ann Marino Giebel '73 and her husband, John, are celebrating their 40th anniversary. Her son Brian received his Ph.D. in marine and atmospheric science (chemistry) from the University of Miami. Her daughter Jessica received her bachelor's degree from Wagner College, and is enrolled in a master's degree program at LIU Post.

S. Maria Pascuzzi '73, C.S.J., was appointed dean of the School of Theology and Ministry at St. Thomas University in Miami, Fla. (See story on Page 26.)

1980s

Elizabeth Juliano Panissidi '80 is very proud of her son, Anthony, who was accepted into Gannett's Talent Development Program. Her other son, Nicholas, is a member of the Toms River Black Sox high school select/college prep baseball team.

Michelle Cacamis '81 is in her 30th year of teaching. She is currently teaching first grade in the Levittown (N.Y.) School District. Her goal is to help children and make them better citizens of our world.

Barbara Malkas '82 is superintendent of Webster Public Schools in Webster, Mass.

Agnes Catalano '85 retired as a social worker in July 2011 and is enjoying time with her family.

1990s

Denise McLinden Guadagno '92 has three children: Nicole, Ryan and Ava. Denise is currently working as a speech-language pathologist, serving early intervention and preschoolers. She is thankful for the excellent education received at St. Joseph's, and all the fun memories.

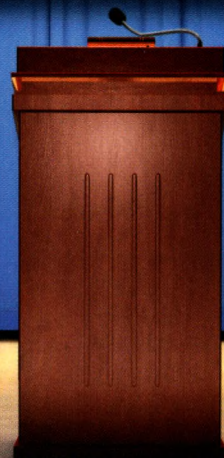
Conrad Brown '93 is the new chief nursing officer and vice president for First Choice Emergency Room in Texas.

Regina Cirigialiano-Kieran '94 is in her 19th year of teaching in New York City. She wrote her first grant in 2009, and to date has had more than 60 grants fully funded, totaling about \$30,000 in supplies for classrooms. In June 2012, she was nominated by DonorsChoose.org for *People* magazine's teacher of the year.

Steven Mahoney '95 is a retired police officer, and now works for the United States Postal Service.

Louisa Mendez-Vigne '98 and her husband, Joel, are very happy to announce the birth of their second daughter, Isabelle Makayla, who was

THE HALL IS CALLING.



SAVE THE DATE • Induction Ceremony
Friday, September 27, at 6 p.m.

Nominations are now being
accepted for the sixth class of the

GOLDEN EAGLES ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

in the following categories:

ATHLETE • COACH (former or retired)
TEAM • DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTOR

The nomination process is open to the
entire SJC community. The deadline for
completed forms is June 15, 2013.

To learn more about the Golden Eagles
Athletic Hall of Fame and obtain
a nomination form, visit
www.sjcnj.edu/athletichalloffame
or call 631.687.2653.



*Congratulations to newlyweds **Mark Wilson '08** and **Amanda Young Wilson '08**. Their wedding was held at St. Virgilius Church in Broad Channel, Queens, on August 11, followed by a reception at the Dyker Beach Golf Club. Mark works as a grant writer in St. Joseph's Office of Institutional Advancement. Amanda and Mark celebrated their big day with fellow SJC alumni **Andrea Rosado '08**, Mark's cousin **Roseanne Giardina Wilson '02**, his brother and best man **James Wilson '15**, best man **Patrick Mahon '08**, and maid of honor **Fransesca Dolan '10**.*

born in December 2011. Older sister Caitlin is thrilled to have a new sibling.

2000s

Lisann Valentin Millayes '03, a Brooklyn lawyer and actress, starred in a new independent film *Made From Scratch*, in a role she hopes will improve the portrayal of Latinos in the media. Lisann has written several short films, and is the founder of the lifestyle blog www.herdeepthoughts.com, in which she gives her thoughts on beauty, exercise and more. She was featured on the cover of the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* newspaper in September.

Allison P. Miller '03 has been promoted to director of community relations at The Bristol Assisted Living at White Plains, a community that offers memory-care support as well as enhanced levels of care.

Maegan Walter-Garvey '03 and her husband, Frank, welcomed their baby girl, Charlotte Anne Garvey, last August.

Lukasz Cygan '07 graduated last May from the New York College of Osteopathic

Medicine, and started his residency at Staten Island University Hospital in July.

Cassandra E. Seide '08 holds a master's degree in mental health counseling and wellness. She is a clinical manager for a nonprofit organization that serves individuals struggling with mental illness and homelessness.

Congratulations to **Christina Contessa Farago '09** and her husband, Nick, who wed in September 2012 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Williamsburg, and enjoyed a reception at Marina del Rey Caterers in the Bronx.

2010s

Elizabeth Fiorella '12 is a mathematics teacher at Fontbonne Hall Academy in Brooklyn, and is grateful for the education she received at St. Joe's.

Long Island

1970s

Arne L. Sandal '74 is a compliance officer with the Internal Revenue Service, and

planned to retire in December. Arne is also retired from the United States Army. He is single, and resides in Eufaula, Ala.

1990s

Mary Ann Malack-Ragona '97 recently celebrated her 10th anniversary as CEO and executive director of the Bay Shore-based Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center. Mary Ann began her college education at the age of 44, graduating with honors from the Long Island Campus with a bachelor's degree in organizational management and a minor in human resources management. She later earned an M.B.A. from Long Island University's C.W. Post Campus.

Jennifer Leeb Veit '99 and her husband, Eric, were both recently appointed to the board of directors for Skyler's Gift Foundation, which provides funding for mortuary and burial costs, as well as grief counseling and support groups, for families who have endured the loss of premature infants. Skyler's Gift Foundation also raises funds for research and advocacy to increase life expectancy for babies born prematurely. For more information or to make a donation, please visit www.skylersgift.org.

2000s

Michael Lauria '01 and **Jason Rudilosso '05** recently opened Rudi's Patchogue, a bar and grill located about two miles from the Long Island Campus. Jason played for the St. Joseph's baseball team and attended the alumni game last October.

Congratulations to **Christopher Kearney '01** and his wife, Stephanie Collura, who welcomed their first child, Alora Rose Kearney, on August 13, 2012. The proud parents both work at St. Joseph's Long Island Campus. Christopher, an adjunct professor of psychology, earned a doctoral degree in school psychology from Fairleigh Dickinson University in May. Stephanie is manager of digital design in the Office of Institutional Advancement.

Michael MacEwen '02 married Meredith Konya on May 26, 2012, at St. Charles Church in Boardman, Ohio. Michael earned a B.S. in Business Administration

from St. Joseph's, and is now a regional manager for Henry Schein Inc. They live in Canfield, Ohio.

Charles Tator '02 and **Daria Liles Tator '03** welcomed a second daughter, Charlotte Mai Tator. She joined big sister Kaia Eve. Daria is an assistant director of alumni relations for the Long Island Campus.

Kelly Coyne Komorowski '03 is the owner of Encore Dance Academy in Kings Park, N.Y. Encore was once again voted Best Children's Dance School in the *Long Island Press* Best of Long Island, presented by Bethpage Federal Credit Union.

Catherine Russo '03 and Kevin Clyne were married on September 9, 2012, at Lombardi's on the Sound in Port Jefferson, N.Y. She is an employee-benefit specialist for New York Community Bancorp Inc. in Westbury. The couple lives in East Islip.

Cesar Caro '04 was elected vice president of membership for the Delta Sigma Phi NYC

Alumni Association Inc. In May, Cesar will celebrate the confirmation of his 13-year-old son, Evan Matthew Caro, at St. Jude's Roman Catholic Church in Mastic Beach, N.Y.

Andrea Gallo Volk '04 was a contestant on *Wheel of Fortune*; her episode was slated to air the first week in May. She is associate director of admissions for data operations, admissions and undergraduate admissions for the Long Island Campus.

Christina Marie Camilliti '06 and Matthew Thomas King were married on July 20, 2012, at St. Joseph's Church in Ronkonkoma, N.Y. A New York City teacher, Christina earned a B.S. in Elementary Education and Special Education from St. Joseph's and a master's degree in literacy from LIU Post. Matthew attended Nassau Community College. They live in Lynbrook, N.Y.

Bryan Knipping '06 and **Kerri Bona Knipping '08** were married on June 22, 2012. They met as students on the Long Island Campus.

Nicole Marie DeLuca '09 is engaged to Richard David Ashenfalter. Nicole works for Integrity Bank. The couple will be married on September 27 in Lancaster, Penn.

Stacey Smith '09 was hired by world-famous sketch comedy and improv company The Second City to perform 15 shows a week on the Norwegian Breakaway cruise ship from July through November 2013.

2010s

Michele Leis '11 and Robert Parisi were wed July 12, 2012, at St. Kilian's Church in Farmingdale, N.Y. Michele is a substitute teacher for the West Babylon School District, and earned a B.A. in Childhood Education. The couple lives in West Babylon. ■



In Memoriam

Alumni

Margaret Clarke Keating '33
Miriam V. Mannix '38
Jean Stone '38
Ethyl Masheck Comerford '40
Alice Canevari Foppiani '42
Rosemary McMorro Morris '42
Florence J. Bergen '43
Rose Prince DiVernieri '45
Elizabeth T. Scanlon '45
Winifred Mary Comer Turner '45
Gloria Ortolani Amorosi '47
Eleanor Miller O'Connor '48
Lillian Verderber '50
Natalie Fucigna Carlese '52
Miriam Rettig Davy '52
Joan Mooney '52

Genevieve O'Brien Pellegrino '52
Cecilia LaPenne DiBuono '53
Joan McAbee '54
Mary Brennan Serena '54
Santina Ursino Naddeo '55
Mary Seery '56
Kathleen Doherty Cravotta '62
Catherine Vesey O'Neill '64
Virginia Bush Reidy '64
Florence A. Fincke '80

Friends and Family

Francis O'Connor, husband of the late Eleanor Miller O'Connor '48
Thomas J. Brown, husband of Georgette A. Brown '50
Howard Barry, husband of

Consiglia Pompa Barry '51
James Starace, husband of Marilyn Baque Starace '55
Daniel Dolan, husband of Mary Cahill Dolan '59
John A. Graziani, husband of Eileen Moloney Graziani '59
William Duggan, husband of Mary McCabe Duggan '60
Frank Macchiarola, husband of Mary T. Collins Macchiarola '62
Lawrence A. Moringiello, husband of Mary Therese Moringiello '76, father of Mary Theresa Moringiello '76 and Pia Nelson '07
S. Bonnie Kelly, C.S.J., former teacher and assistant to the dean on the Long Island Campus

Alumni Happenings



Robert Ansler

Thomas Travis, Ph.D. (third from left), retiring dean of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies, received the Thomas A. Doherty Ethical Leadership Award at the Long Island Graduate Management Studies Networking Dinner on March 26. He is pictured with the Doherty family and SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill '64, C.S.J.



Robert Ansler

The Long Island Campus hosted its Entrepreneurs on the Move panel discussion on March 21. Pictured are Assistant Director of Alumni Relations Catherine Vitucci '04, panelist Dr. Frank Favazza '87, moderator Assistant Professor Robert Seperson, panelist Kelly Coyne Komorowski '03 and Director of Alumni Relations Paige Napoli Carbone '02.



Robert Napolitano

Brooklyn Campus graduates enjoyed a little friendly competition at the annual Alumni Hoops Night at Brooklyn Technical High School on January 26. The alumni game was followed by an afternoon tailgating party and the men's and women's basketball games against Berkeley College.



Robert Napolitano

An alumni reception held at the Brooklyn Campus on February 1 was followed by the Chapel Players Dramatic Society's performance of *Into the Woods*.



President S. Elizabeth A. Hill '64, C.S.J., met with SJC graduates at an alumni reception in Jupiter, Fla., on March 6.



Students, staff, faculty and alumni met for a traditional Irish breakfast at Connolly's Pub on March 16 before marching in the New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade. Assistant Director of Alumni Relations Marianne Traviglia Ferrara '69 and Associate Vice President of Alumni Relations and Stewardship Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69 are pictured with Nancy Mulholland Brogan '69, Mary Butz '69 and Marynita Anderson '69.



The Brooklyn Graduate Management Studies Networking Dinner was held at the Brooklyn Campus on March 19, and honored retiring PGS Dean Thomas Travis, Ph.D. Pictured are previous guest speakers, honorees and committee members Juan Carlos Pocasangre, M.S., E.M.B.A. '05; Donald Patterson '06, M.B.A. '08; Marie-Ange Diegue '05, M.S. '08; Dr. Travis; Taryn Hunter, M.B.A. '08; Associate Dean Linda Incorvaia Fonte '75; and Director of Business Administration and Accounting Mary Chance, C.P.A.



Members of the L.I. Alumni Association came out to celebrate future SJC alumni at the 101 Nights Till Graduation event on February 15. Pictured are Ben Tieniber '06; Ginny Muller '94; Assistant Dean of Students and Student Life Bryan Gill '06, M.B.A.'10; Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations and Stewardship Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69; Paige Napoli Carbone '02; Michael Meyers '08, Assistant Director of Career Development, Wellness and Disability Services Jennifer Sarnicola Rooney '04; and Assistant Director of Alumni Relations Daria Liles Tator '03.



Secretaries and treasurers were honored this year at the Brooklyn Campus' annual Home for the Holidays Student Government Association Reunion on December 14.



Visit magazine.sjcny.edu for more photos from recent alumni events.

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Weekend

September 27 - 29, 2013

Long Island Campus

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ALUMNI FALL LUNCHEON

**Saturday
October 19, 2013**

Club 101
101 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016

EVENTS CALENDAR

Spring/Summer 2013

Office of Alumni Relations
Brooklyn: 718.940.5576 / Long Island: 631.687.2653

Office of Special Events: 631.687.2655

For a complete listing of events, visit www.sjcny.edu.

MAY

- 24 Brooklyn Commencement**
11 a.m. at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge
- 24 SJC College Night with the L.I. Ducks**
Pre-game barbecue at 5:30 p.m.; game at 7:05 p.m.
Bethpage Ballpark, Central Islip
- 28 Long Island Commencement**
3 p.m. at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum,
Uniondale

JUNE

- 21 SJC Alumni Family Night with the Cyclones**
6 p.m. at MCU Park, Coney Island
- 22 Alumni East End Wine Tour**
Bus departs from the L.I. Campus at 10 a.m.

SEPTEMBER

- 21 A Day at the Races Luncheon**
Noon at Belmont Park, Elmont
- 27 Golden Eagles Athletic Hall of Fame**
6 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. induction ceremony
John A. Danzi Athletic Center, L.I. Campus
- 27-29 Alumni and Family Weekend (L.I. Campus)**

OCTOBER

- 3 Alumni Wine Tasting**
6 p.m. at Brooklyn Oenology Winery (BOE),
Williamsburg
- 19 Alumni Fall Luncheon (Brooklyn Campus)**
Noon at Club 101, Manhattan

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Pilgrimage to the Holy Land January 7-17, 2014



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For more information or to register for the pilgrimage, contact S. Grace Rowland, C.S.J., at 631.654.0199.

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Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69

Associate Vice President of

Alumni Relations and Stewardship

245 Clinton Avenue • Brooklyn, NY 11205

718.940.5574

Paige Napoli Carbone '02

Director of Alumni Relations

1 Terry Street, Suite 2 • Patchogue, NY 11772

631.687.2653

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